

U.S. SENATOR
PAT ROBERTS



**ACHIEVEMENTS FOR KANSAS
AND THE COUNTRY 1997-2018**

Introduction

Highlights of Senator Roberts' Senate Career 1997-present

Senator Pat Roberts has dedicated his career in public service to the people of Kansas.

A review of Senator Roberts' impact on Kansas and the country is broad and all-encompassing, from bringing new jobs to the state to authoring laws that impact millions of Americans in support of farming and ranching; from growing missions at Kansas' military facilities in support of national security to helping Kansas residents rebuild after natural disasters; from championing access to health care in rural communities to passing tax reform that allows Americans to keep more of the money they earn.

Senator Roberts is the only member of the current Kansas delegation to serve as chairman of two powerful Senate committees in his career. From 2003-2006, he chaired the Senate Select Committee on Intelligence and, in 2015, he became chairman of the Senate Committee on Agriculture, Nutrition and Forestry.

In looking back, we find that career accomplishments don't neatly fit into annual recaps. In fact, it's Senator Roberts' sustained, dogged and relentless efforts over many years that have led to some of his most significant achievements in the state. The National Bio and Agro-Defense Facility was a 16 year labor that will bring new jobs and more than \$2 billion to the Kansas economy over the next ten years.

While Senator Roberts' representation includes eight terms in the House of Representatives as Congressman to the Big First Congressional District, this report focuses on the highlights of his Senate career from 1997 to the present.

The motto of the State of Kansas is *Ad Astra per Aspera*, "to the stars through difficulty." Senator Roberts has made that his guiding principle. While our nation has faced many challenges, he has never once let that stop his pursuit of the best for the people of Kansas and the country.





Contents

INTRODUCTION.....	i
Highlights of Senator Roberts' Senate Career 1997-present.....	i
SECTION ONE / EXECUTIVE SUMMARY	1
Senator Roberts' Accomplishments by the Year	1
SECTION TWO / LEGISLATIVE NARRATIVES.....	15
Agriculture.....	15
Agribus Legislation	15
Biotech Disclosure Bill.....	16
Conservation Programs.....	17
Country of Origin Labeling (COOL)	18
USDA School Meal Requirements	19
Hazardous Materials Endorsement Exemption for Agriculture Industry	19
Disaster and Drought Assistance for Kansas Farmers and Ranchers	20
Conservation Reserve Program Grazing.....	22
Crop Insurance and Farm Program Champion in Farm Bills and Beyond.....	22
Agriculture Nominations	26
International Food Aid	26
Food and Medicine as a Weapon	27
Freedom to Farm	28
Lesser Prairie Chicken	28
Waters of the United States (WOTUS)	30
Rural Fugitive Dust	31
Defense	32
BRAC/Preventing Force Structure Cuts	32
Father Kapaun—Medal of Honor	33
GITMO	34
Parsons—Kansas Army Ammunition Plant	36
Senate Marine Corps Caucus	37
Air Force Tanker Bid and Growing the Mission at McConnell	38
Honoring Kansas' Native Son, World War II Hero and Senator Robert J. Dole	39
Secure our Agriculture and Food Act (P.L. 115-43).....	41
Health Care	42
Avian Flu.....	42
Drug Compounding	43
University of Kansas—National Cancer Institute (NCI) Designation	44
Rural Health Advocate	46
Blocking Rationing in Health Care	48
State Fair Cancer Prevention	49
Intelligence.....	50
Senate Intelligence Committee Leadership and Intelligence Community Reform Efforts.....	50
Searching for Captain Scott Speicher.....	54
Pat Roberts Intelligence Scholarship Program.....	56

Economic Growth	57
The National Bio and Agro-Defense Facility (NBAF) and the Biosecurity Research Institute (BRI) at Pat Roberts Hall	57
Transportation	60
South Lawrence Trafficway	60
General Aviation	61
National Institute for Aviation Research.....	62
Education	63
Common Core Education Standards Initiative	63
Roberts Blue Ribbon Advisory Committee on Science, Technology and the Future.....	64
Senator Roberts Expands Access to G.I. Bill Funds for Veterans Pursuing Degrees in Agriculture and Natural Resource Sciences	66
Energy	67
Protecting Citizens from Natural Gas Explosions	67
Telecommunications	69
Protecting GPS Users	69
Greensburg Tornado and Recovery	70
Taxes	72
Oversight of the Internal Revenue Service	72
Tax Policy Leadership.....	73
Tax Cuts and Jobs Act.....	78
Senator Pat Roberts Tax-Related Accomplishments Timeline	82
Pensions	83
Rural Co-op Pension Plans	83
Treece Remediation	84
Seniors	87
Older Americans Act/Senior Nutrition Programs	87
Housing	88
USDA Rural Housing	88
Low-Income Housing Tax Credit.....	89
Immigration	90
USCIS Mobile Immigration Services	90
Bob Dole Congressional Gold Medal Act	92
Eisenhower Memorial Commission	93
SECTION THREE / SENATE CAREER AWARDS	95
Key Awards by Topic	95
SECTION FOUR / CASEWORK NARRATIVES	99
Senator Roberts, Working for Kansans.....	99
Constituent Services.....	99
Casework Narratives.....	99
SECTION FIVE / OFFICIAL BIOGRAPHY	103

Executive Summary

Senator Roberts' Accomplishments by the Year

2017

Agriculture Nominations

As Chairman of the Senate Agriculture Committee, Chairman Roberts successfully shepherded the Secretary of Agriculture and 11 other nominees through the committee. He also was able to have the secretary and eight of the nominees confirmed by the full Senate before the end of the legislative session.

Bob Dole Congressional Gold Medal

Senator Roberts secured the signatures of all 100 senators within two days to honor Bob Dole with the Congressional Gold Medal in recognition of his service to the nation as a “soldier, legislator and statesman.”

Conservation Reserve Program Grazing

In early March 2017, historical and unprecedented wildfires burned through Southwest Kansas, scorching more than 700,000 acres across 21 counties. It was the largest wildfire in Kansas history. In light of this, Senator Roberts successfully secured an extension to emergency grazing on Conservation Reserve Program (CRP) lands for the starved cattle of western Kansas.

Eisenhower Memorial

Chairman Roberts steered the Eisenhower Memorial Commission through the steps of the approval process. Because of Chairman Roberts' tireless efforts, the groundbreaking for the National Dwight D. Eisenhower Memorial was held on November 2, 2017.

G.I. Bill Funds for Veterans Pursuing Degrees in Agriculture and Natural Resource Sciences

The Harry W. Colmery Veterans Educational Assistance Act was signed into law and included a provision secured by Senator Roberts, which expands the definition of STEM eligible programs to include agriculture and natural resource sciences, allowing these students access to an extra year of funding.

Securing our Agriculture and Food Act

This law, sponsored by Senator Roberts in the Senate, requires the Secretary of Homeland Security (DHS), through the Assistant Secretary for Health Affairs, to lead the agency's efforts to secure our nation's food, agriculture, and veterinary systems against terrorism and high-risk events. The bill also authorizes the secretary to collaborate with other agencies, to ensure food, agriculture, and animal and human health sectors receive attention and are integrated into the DHS's domestic preparedness policy initiatives.

Tax Cuts and Jobs Act

As a senior member of the Senate Finance Committee, Senator Roberts was instrumental in writing key provisions in the Tax Cuts and Jobs Act. He protected agricultural interests, simplified accounting and depreciation rules for small and medium businesses, created a new deduction for income earned by passthrough organizations and provided the business aviation industry with full expensing, as well as other provisions.

USDA School Meal Requirements

In May 2017, after hearing concerns from schoolchildren, parents, teachers, administrators and school foodservice providers in Kansas and across the country regarding the challenges of complying with rigid school food standards, Senator Roberts and Secretary Perdue announced much-needed regulatory changes to the National School Lunch Program. These included a postponement of damaging sodium requirements, an allowance for non-whole grain rich products and an allowance for 1% milkfat flavored milk to be served.

2016

BioTech

After recognizing the need for a national labeling standard of food products containing ingredients produced using biotechnology, Senator Roberts worked tirelessly to pass a bill that would not only give consumers confidence in the products they buy, but also promote sound science and protect American farmers' rights. The bill, which requires the Secretary of Agriculture to establish a mandatory disclosure standard for bioengineered foods, while also protecting a farmer's right to grow these crops by keeping the disclosure claims on food science-based and non-derogatory, was supported by 1,100 groups, including the American Farm Bureau Federation, National Corn Growers Association, National Association of Wheat Growers, American Soybean Association and National Grain and Feed Association.

Eisenhower Memorial

Since he was elected as Chairman of the Eisenhower Memorial Commission, the design for a memorial on the National Mall dedicated to President and General Dwight D. Eisenhower has received approval from all necessary authorizing agencies and the Eisenhower family. Chairman Roberts has also grown the distinguished Advisory Committee and expanded fundraising efforts.

IRS Rule

Senator Roberts successfully blocked an Internal Revenue Service rule proposal that would call on charities to collect, store and report personal donor information, including Social Security numbers, to the IRS.

Lesser Prairie Chicken

Senator Roberts tirelessly opposed U.S. Fish and Wildlife's proposal to list the Lesser Prairie Chicken as a threatened species under the Endangered Species Act. After much opposition from Congress and the agriculture and energy industries, the Lesser Prairie Chicken was successfully delisted.

Underground Gas Storage Legislation

Senator Roberts successfully secured language in the Securing America's Future Energy: Protecting Infrastructure of Pipelines and Enhancing Safety (SAFE PIPES) Act that established the first nationwide standards for underground gas storage facilities and greater oversight of underground natural gas storage facilities protecting citizens in Kansas and across the country from future incidents similar to the explosions in Hutchinson, Kansas, in 2001.

2015

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AgriBus

In 2015, the Senate Agriculture Committee, Chaired by Senator Roberts, reauthorized the Federal Grain Inspection Services, the National Forest Service Foundation and Mandatory Price Reporting for livestock. A focus of the legislation was to improve the transparency and predictability throughout the federal grain inspection system to ensure that situations like the work stoppage at Port of Vancouver do not happen again, thus protecting agriculture exports.

Common Core Education Standards Initiative

Senator Roberts' legislative language to explicitly prohibit the federal government's role and involvement in Common Core was included as part of the Elementary and Secondary Education Act reauthorization.

COOL Repeal

Senator Roberts was able to secure the inclusion of mandatory Country of Origin Labeling (COOL) repeal in the year-end funding bill, thereby saving American agriculture and businesses from \$1 billion in retaliatory tariffs.

Hazmat Exemption for Custom Harvesters

In 2015, a hazardous materials endorsement exemption for custom harvesters and agriculture retailers was included in the Highway Bill (P.L. 114-94). Senator Roberts championed similar legislation in the Senate.

Helping Veterans Save for Health Care Act

Senator Roberts introduced S. 1880, the Helping Veterans Save for Health Care Act, which would ensure an individual with a service-related disability is eligible to contribute to a health savings account while he or she is receiving care at the Veteran's Administration for any period of time. This provision was included in the Surface Transportation and Veterans Health Care Choice Improvement Act, (P.L. 114-41), which was signed into law in July 2015.

Innovators Job Creation Act

The Protecting Americans from Tax Hikes Act included Senator Roberts' Innovators Job Creation Act, which allows new and smaller businesses to claim a credit against the taxes paid on employee wages when those funds are invested in research and development.

Military Access to Housing Act

Our nation's military families should have access to safe, affordable housing no matter where they live and, for that reason, in 2007, Senator Roberts introduced the Military Access to Housing Act of 2007 (S. 839), legislation to provide more housing choices to our men and women in uniform. In December 2015, Roberts successfully secured a permanent extension of the military housing benefit in the Protecting Americans from Tax Hikes Act (P.L. 114-113).

National Bio and Agro-defense Facility (NBAF)

Senator Roberts' 16 year effort to establish a biosecurity level 4 foreign animal disease research laboratory in Kansas culminated with a groundbreaking ceremony for the NBAF. The Senator was able to secure \$714 million in federal funding for the facility, which promises a \$3.6 billion economic impact to the area over the next 20 years.

Protecting Americans from Tax Hikes (PATH) Act

Senator Roberts achieved \$438 billion in tax relief for Kansas and other taxpayers with the enactment of the Protecting Americans from Tax Hikes (PATH) Act (P.L. 114-113), which included a number of provisions that Roberts has long championed that were made permanent, including the research and development (R&D) tax credit; Section 179 property expensing; tax relief for S Corporations from the "built-in gains tax," and deductions for conservation easements. The PATH Act also included critical provisions written by Senator Roberts that allow businesses to write off new equipment and property purchases on a favorable basis.

Senate Marine Corps Caucus

Senator Roberts initiated the Senate's first Marine Corps Caucus, hosting current and former Commandants and increasing the support in Congress for the Marine Corps.

Stop Targeting of Political Beliefs by the IRS Act

Senator Roberts' Stop Targeting of Political Beliefs by the IRS Act, which prohibits targeting of conservative social welfare organizations, was included in the 2015 year-end appropriations bill, the Consolidated Appropriations Act (P.L. 114-113), signed into law on December 18, 2015.

State Fair Cancer Prevention

Following the death of Congressman Keith Sebelius in 1982 of prostate cancer, and building upon Senator Bob Dole's work to encourage prostate cancer screening at the State Fair, Senator Roberts and his wife, Franki, have served as honorary sponsors of the Hutchinson Clinic/Prevent Cancer Foundation Health Awareness and Screening Booth since 1993.

Franki was honored for her work to help prevent cancer by the Prevent Cancer Foundation's Congressional Families Cancer Prevention Program. She was honored along with Pulitzer Prize winning author Dr. Siddhartha Mukherjee (he wrote "The Emperor of All Maladies: A Biography of Cancer") and Food Network star Sandra Lee.

Conservation Reserve Programs (CRP)

Beginning in 1985, with the Farmland Conservation Acreage Reserve Act, Senator Roberts has been a champion for the Conservation Reserve Program, which aims to reduce erosion on marginal agricultural lands by incentivizing farmers, ranchers and other landowners to remove certain lands from production in order to plant vegetation and construct wetlands. However, he also authored measures in the 2014 Farm Bill that included a number of efficiencies and flexibilities to improve the program performance.

Drought and Disaster Assistance

Senator Roberts inserted language in the 2014 Farm Bill which retroactively funded the Livestock Indemnity Program and Livestock Forage Program from years 2011-2013 to provide for livestock producers that had suffered catastrophic losses. This created an extremely valuable safety net.

Home Health & Hospice

Senator Roberts has been a consistent champion for seniors to receive health care at home through the Medicare home health and hospice benefits. He authored a provision, which was signed into law in 2014, to require more frequent surveys and accreditation for hospices, which will improve quality. He annually champions protections against any proposed payment cuts or additional regulatory burdens being placed on these providers.

Rural Co-Op Pensions

Senator Roberts championed a law to permanently exempt rural cooperatives from overly burdensome pension regulations that would have hurt current and future retirees' pension plans.

USCIS Mobile Services

In 2014, Senator Roberts communicated the immigration needs of Kansas communities to U.S. Citizenship Immigration Services (USCIS) and successfully brought mobile immigration services to southwest Kansas, the number one priority of USCIS.

USDA Rural Housing

Senator Roberts' rural housing legislation, included in the Farm Bill in 2014, overturned the USDA's purely subjective standard by grandfathering in, until 2020, currently eligible communities that meet the population threshold, and also raised the population cap from 25,000 to 35,000. After enactment of Senator Roberts' language, USDA Rural Development (RD) determined that Dodge City, Garden City and Lansing are eligible for the USDA housing programs, and the communities of Andover, Gardner, Hays, Junction City, Liberal, Ottawa and Pittsburg will also remain eligible due to the provision.

Waters of the United States (WOTUS)

Since the Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) and the Army Corp of Engineers proposed a new rule to define the "Waters of the United States"

(WOTUS) under the Clean Water Act in March 2014, Senator Roberts has led the fight against this over-regulation and the abuse of executive power. The rule would greatly expand the waters regulated under the Clean Water Act—not only encroaching on the rights of states and private property owners, but also increasing uncertainty over the economic effects EPA regulation would have on farmers and ranchers.

2013

Drug Compounding

In 2002, following reports of fraudulent activity by a Kansas City, Missouri, pharmacist who was diluting cancer drugs, Senator Roberts worked diligently over the next decade to pass legislation, which was signed into law in 2013. This legislation protects traditional pharmacies and gives patients more confidence in the quality and safety of their compound medication by clarifying the regulation of compounding manufacturers between state boards of pharmacy and the Food and Drug Administration (FDA).

2012

Father Kapaun

Congress passed the 2012 National Defense Authorization Bill, which included an amendment Senator Roberts offered that paved the way to awarding the Medal of Honor to Father Emil Kapaun, a Kansan who died in a North Korea prisoner of war camp in 1951.

Parsons

Senator Roberts fought the Environmental Protection Agency, and at times the U.S. Army, for more than seven years to transfer the former Kansas Army Ammunition Plant in Parsons to Great Plains Regional Development Authority, which plans an industrial reuse park for the site to increase economic opportunities for the community. The transfer was successfully finalized in 2012.

University of Kansas – National Cancer Institute (NCI) Designation

In 1996, Senator Roberts created a blue ribbon committee to advise him on the state's science technology needs, which included prioritizing life science research at the University of Kansas. He partnered with the university to increase National Institutes of Health funding, improve research facilities and secure National Cancer Institute (NCI) designation, which was achieved in 2012.

2011

GPS Legacy

Senator Roberts led the charge to protect public safety, aviation, military and precision agriculture uses of Global Positioning Systems (GPS) from the potential harmful interference of LightSquared, a company that sought to develop a wholesale 4G LTE wireless broadband network integrated with satellite

coverage across the United States. Senator Roberts introduced an amendment to a Financial Services and Government Affairs Appropriations bill that prohibited the Federal Communications Commission from using funds to allow LightSquared to build out their network until the agency could prove the expansion would not interfere with the use of GPS technology.

Rural Fugitive Dust

In 1993, the EPA published a rule that would have negatively impacted countless farmers and other Kansans in rural areas with overly-burdensome regulations on rural dust. Senator Roberts led a group of rural-state Congressmen in opposing these poorly proposed standards, which, as a result, were dropped by the EPA. In 2011, when a similar rule was once again introduced by the EPA, Senator Roberts cosponsored a bill with Senator Mike Johanns (R-NE), to reverse the proposed rule. As a result of Senator Roberts' tireless work, the EPA once again rescinded their rule.

Tanker Bid

After ten years of the senator's advocacy on behalf of Boeing, the Air Force announced the company's KC-46 would replace the aging, "Eisenhower-era" fleet of KC-135s. Later, in 2014, following years of military construction support from the senator, McConnell Air Force Base was positioned to be named the first active duty installation to receive the new fleet in 2018.

Blocking Rationing in Health Care

Donald Berwick was nominated by President Obama to be the administrator of the Centers for Medicare and Medicaid Services (CMS). Serving on both the Finance Committee and the Health, Education, Labor and Pensions Committee, Senator Roberts was uniquely positioned to lead the opposition to this controversial nomination over Berwick's support for rationing health care to hold down costs. Afraid the nominee would not clear the Finance Committee, due to Senator Roberts' compelling campaign against Dr. Berwick, President Obama issued a recess appointment. Berwick could only serve until the summer of 2011 without Senate approval. With the knowledge that opposition wasn't going away, Berwick resigned his position at CMS on December 2, 2011.

Honoring Senator Robert J. Dole

Without Bob Dole, the nation would not have the World War II (WWII) Memorial. Bob Dole became the spokesman for these heroes when he rescued a stalled effort to honor the Greatest Generation with a fitting tribute to their sacrifice. The effort to recognize Senator Dole's service to the nation began in October 2009 when Senator Roberts and U.S. Senator Daniel K. Inouye (D-HI) wrote to U.S. Secretary of the Interior, Ken Salazar, requesting a permanent plaque on the World War II Memorial at the Pacific Theater entrance. The plaque was unveiled at a ceremony on April 12, 2011, which included remarks from Senator Dole, Senator Roberts, Tom Brokaw, Vice President Joseph Biden, Senator Liddy Dole, Senator Daniel Inouye and others.

2010

Renames Post Office for Congresswoman Jan Meyers

Post Office at 9727 Antioch Road in Overland Park now honors Jan Meyers.

Army Dedicates “Senator Pat Roberts Room” at Ft. Leavenworth’s Lewis and Clark Center

In recognition for his support of Fort Leavenworth’s Command and General Staff College (CGSC), and the nation’s men and women in uniform, Ft. Leavenworth honored Senator Roberts by dedicating the Trophy Lounge as the “Senator Pat Roberts Room” at the Lewis and Clark Center.

Five-Star General’s Commemorative Coin

Senator Roberts’ bill to honor Ft. Leavenworth’s Command and General Staff College’s 132 years of educating the nation’s military leaders became law. The bill required the Secretary of the Treasury to mint coins in recognition of five United States Army Five-Star Generals.

Agriculture Mediation Bill

Language similar to a bill Senator Roberts introduced as a stand-alone bill, to reauthorize Ag Mediation, became law. Mediation programs provide a neutral, confidential forum to discuss complex issues and build strong working relationships with producers, their lenders and government agencies. The programs address issues in a confidential and non-adversarial setting outside the traditional legal process of foreclosure, bankruptcy, appeals and litigation.

2009

GITMO

Since 2009, Senator Roberts effectively fought the Obama administration’s attempts to move enemy combatants from Guantanamo Bay detention facility in Cuba to U.S. mainland and, more importantly, Fort Leavenworth, Kansas.

Treece Remediation

Senator Roberts introduced an amendment that was accepted by voice vote to the Fiscal Year 2010 Interior Appropriations bill. The amendment gives the Environmental Protection Agency the authority to formalize an agreement with the State of Kansas over funds used to relocate residents of Treece, who had long been affected by toxic lead-laced dust, contaminated soil and sinkholes.

2008

General Aviation

In 2008, Senator Roberts successfully fought and won, striking user fees on general aviation from the FAA reauthorization compromise agreement. In March 2010, the FAA reauthorization became law, with no user fees language included.

Heartland, Habitat and Horticulture Act

Senator Roberts added the Heartland, Habitat and Horticulture Act to the 2008 Farm Bill. The legislation exempts Conservation Reserve Program payments from self-employment taxes for disabled and retired farmers and ranchers, cutting taxes for these producers by over \$200 million.

Low Income Housing Tax Credit

Senator Roberts secured passage of legislation to ensure that military personnel are eligible tenants under the Low Income Housing Tax Credit.

National Institute for Aviation Research (NIAR)

In 2008 and 2009, Senator Roberts secured funding for aviation research programs at NIAR, which provide testing, training, certification and research to the aviation manufacturing community.

2007

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Greensburg, Kansas, Tornado Recovery

After an EF-5 tornado destroyed Greensburg, Senator Roberts assisted the city in successfully competing for grants and developing federal programs that provided tax relief for businesses and homeowners.

Kansas Disaster Tax Relief Assistance Act

Senator Roberts secured passage of the Kansas Disaster Tax Relief Assistance Act, which provides a range of individual and business tax relief provisions for taxpayers in disaster zones. The legislation helped the town of Greensburg, Kansas, and other tornado damaged towns recover from catastrophic storms.

Older Americans Act

In 2007, Senator Roberts introduced legislation to amend the Older Americans Act to allow some states to continue to receive donated commodities. At issue was language in the reauthorization of the Older Americans Act that would prevent seven states, including Kansas, from receiving donated commodities from the U.S. Department of Agriculture. Without this legislative fix, these states would have been forced to use a commercial vendor or go through a school lunch authority program, which Kansas does not have.

Rural Health Care Champion

Throughout his Senate career, Senator Roberts has been a champion of rural health care and, in 2007, he was appointed by Republican leadership to serve as the co-chair of the Rural Health Caucus. He has long championed payment parity for rural providers and worked to protect many of the vital programs that keep our rural hospitals and providers afloat.

Trauma Centers

Senator Roberts believes trauma systems are a crucial component of our public health preparedness and helped lead the effort to develop and strengthen statewide trauma care systems through reauthorization of the Trauma Care Systems Planning and Development Act, which was signed into law in 2007.

Phase II Iraq Reports Released

Chairman Roberts completed two of the “Phase II” reports concerning pre-war intelligence on Iraq, including post-war findings about Iraq’s weapons of mass destruction and how they compared with pre-war assessments, links to terrorism, and the intelligence community’s use of information provided by the Iraqi National Congress.

Protecting Rural Cooperative Multiple Employer Pension Plans

The Senate approved the Pension Protect Act with a key amendment from Senator Roberts that recognizes multiple employer plans lack of risk to the Pension Benefit Guaranty Corporation (PBGC). Since multiple employer plans would continue to operate even if some cooperatives were to go out of business, the bill delayed the date that these plans must comply with the new funding rules.

Intelligence Committee Creates a Subcommittee on the Terrorist Surveillance Program

Following the New York Times exposure of the highly classified Terrorist Surveillance Program (TSP), Chairman Roberts fought to protect the NSA’s ongoing use of the program by creating a subcommittee to enhance oversight.

Roberts Convinces White House to Allow Full Intelligence Committee to be Briefed on TSP

Taking oversight of the TSP one step further, Chairman Roberts negotiated access to the program for the remaining members of the Senate Intelligence Committee.

New National Intelligence Estimate on Iraq

Senator Roberts and Senator Ted Kennedy (D-MA) offered an amendment calling for a new National Intelligence Estimate (NIE) on Iraq. The amendment was attached to the FY 2007 Defense Appropriations bill.

BRI Building Named in Honor of Senator Roberts

The Kansas Board of Regents voted to name the new state-of-the-art building housing the Biosecurity Research Institute at Kansas State University, Pat Roberts Hall. It was dedicated on October 27, 2006.

Roberts/Clinton Influenza and Medical Volunteer Provisions Become Law

The Senate approved a bill that later became law, the Pandemic and All-Hazards Preparedness Act (S. 3678), which contained Roberts/Clinton language from a bill they introduced in 2005 called the Influenza Vaccine Security Act of 2005. Roberts’ provisions required the Secretary of Health and Human Services to link existing state verification systems for medical volunteers to maintain a single national network to ensure rapid response to public health emergencies. The bill also gives the secretary authority to track the distribution of federally purchased pandemic flu vaccine in order to determine where supplies of these

vaccines are located. The bill creates an FDA rapid-action team to work with manufacturers who request assistance to identify and resolve problems by providing continuous, on-site assistance to avert a significant shortage of vaccines or countermeasures.

Roberts Bill Signed into Law to Preserve Operations at Bostwick and Webster Irrigation Districts

Senator Roberts' bill to preserve current operations at two Kansas Irrigation Districts, Bostwick and Webster, affecting more than 450 farmers in Republic, Jewell, Smith and Osborne Counties was signed into law.

2005

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BRAC

Long before the last major Defense Base Closure and Realignment Commission (BRAC) round in 2005, Senator Roberts had begun working hard to ensure Kansas' military installations had what they needed to provide relevant and ready forces for the nation's defense. As a result of his foresight and multi-year approach to building up Kansas' installations, Kansas was rewarded with the return of the Big Red One division headquarters to Fort. Riley.

South Lawrence Trafficway

Senator Roberts championed efforts in Congress, including securing funding, to ensure the South Lawrence Trafficway project received the support needed to begin construction.

2004

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Emergency Agriculture Disaster Assistance Act

Senator Roberts was responsible for the passage of the Emergency Agricultural Disaster Assistance Act, which provides tax relief for producers forced to sell livestock due to weather-related conditions or federal land management agency policy.

Intelligence Reform

In response to the nation's critical intelligence failures regarding Saddam Hussein's possession of Weapons of Mass Destruction (WMDs) and as Chairman of the Senate Intelligence Committee, Senator Roberts was able to make sweeping changes to the way our intelligence community (IC) communicates and operates through the National Security Intelligence Reform Act, the most comprehensive overhaul of the IC since the National Security Act of 1947.

The bipartisan, comprehensive "Report on Prewar Intelligence and Iraq" was published by the Senate Intelligence Committee to examine the intelligence breakdown that occurred within the IC, which provided the basis for entering Iraq militarily and ending Saddam Hussein's reign. Senator Roberts' oversight work confirmed that the intelligence assessment presented to Congress and the Bush administration had been wrong.

Pat Roberts Intelligence Scholarship Program

As Chairman of the Senate Select Committee on Intelligence, Senator Roberts established the Pat Roberts Intelligence Scholarship Program (PRISP) to assist the federal government in attracting the best and brightest to government service through scholarships for graduate school where they will be trained with skills critical to the intelligence community.

2003

International Food Aid

In 2003, Senator Roberts demonstrated his commitment to the McGovern-Dole International Food for Education and Child Nutrition Program. The program incentivizes hungry children in poor nations around the world to go to school by offering them a free meal. Senator Roberts' actions combated a proposal the Bush administration put forth to move the program from the Department of Agriculture (USDA) to the U.S. Agency for International Development (USAID).

2002

Drought and Disaster Assistance

As a result of concerns from the drought and the resulting payments for farmers in the 2002 Farm Bill, Senator Roberts successfully sponsored an amendment which doubled Agriculture Marketing Transition Act payments; thereby ensuring farmers a safety net when needed most.

2001

Ambulance Champion

Since 2001, Senator Roberts has championed legislation to provide adequate reimbursement for all ambulance providers under Medicare. Each year, these payment adjustments are included in the "Medicare extenders" legislation that gets signed into law to prevent ambulance and other Medicare payment cuts.

Roberts Introduces Agroterrorism Bill

In the midst of an anthrax attack on the Hart Senate Office Building, working out of loaned office space, Senator Roberts turned his attention to threats to agriculture. He introduced a bill to spend more than \$1.1 billion over 10 years on a program to update and modernize USDA research facilities, implement stiff security procedures at these facilities, fund training and implement a rapid response strategy through a consortium of top universities, the USDA, and agriculture industry groups and fund grants to top agriculture universities and researchers across the nation to develop vaccines, antidotes, and plant varieties that can resist such diseases as Foot and Mouth Disease, Karnal Bunt or Avian Flu, as well as other diseases that have been cultivated for use in bio-warfare. This legislation was later incorporated into the Public Health Security and Bioterrorism Preparedness and Response Act of 2002.

2000



Captain Scott Speicher

In May 2000, Senator Roberts introduced legislation, later passed into law as part of the Fiscal Year 2001 Intelligence Authorization Bill, forcing the Pentagon and intelligence agencies to better handle cases of military personnel Missing-In-Action (MIA). It required a community-wide intelligence assessment to be made regarding those MIA. In August 2009, Captain Scott Speicher’s remains were found in the Iraqi desert, proving he had not survived a fatal crash. Finding Captain Speicher was a result of the culmination of a decade of work by Senator Roberts to locate POW/MIA cases and to improve intelligence gathering.

1999



Senate Transportation Appropriations Bill

Senator Roberts fought for millions in appropriations for critical transportation projects and was able to secure a \$17.3 million investment for Kansas.

India-Pakistan Sanctions

The India-Pakistan bill introduced in 1998 by Senator Roberts to ease agricultural sanctions on India and Pakistan was included in the Defense Appropriations conference report and was signed into law.

Rural Health/Medicare Amendment to FY 2000 Budget

In response to the Clinton administration’s proposed \$9 billion in Medicare cuts for FY 2000, Senator Roberts successfully attached an amendment to the Senate’s 2000 budget to require Congress to consider previous Medicare cuts and act to ensure fair and equitable access to services for all Medicare patients.

Renaming the Old Executive Office Building to the Eisenhower Building

Senator Roberts’ bill to rename Washington, D.C.’s, Old Executive Office Building after Kansas native and former president, Dwight D. Eisenhower, was signed into law on November 9, 1999.

1998



Child Care Plan Takes Another Step Forward

Provisions of Senator Roberts’ bill, originally introduced in 1997, to expand childcare options took another step forward in being considered by the full Senate as part of a larger bill.

Kosovo Use of Military Force

The FY 1999 Defense Appropriations bill signed into law included a Senator Roberts’ amendment limiting future U.S. military involvement in Kosovo. The amendment required the president to answer several important questions before committing U.S. forces, including certifying that the action is vital to U.S. interests, that he explain the mission of the troops and the cost of deploying them, and that he set a timetable and discuss plans for ending the conflict.

1997

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Child Care Plan Introduced

Senator Roberts introduced the Caring for Children Act which expanded the Dependent Care Tax Credit and included incentives for small businesses to provide added opportunity for child care for their employees.

Roberts' Blue Ribbon Advisory Committee on Science, Technology and the Future

Started in 1997, Senator Roberts' Blue Ribbon Advisory Committee on Science, Technology and the Future, fostered collaboration and planning between leaders in government, academia and the private sector to advise the senator on policies necessary to create new economic engines and jobs for Kansans now and in the future.

1996

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Freedom to Farm

In 1996, as Chairman of the House Agriculture Committee, then Congressman Roberts drafted the Federal Agriculture Improvement and Reform Act, also known as Freedom to Farm. This major reform bill passed in the 104th Congress and changed the traditional farm subsidy system to a more market-oriented program.





Agriculture

Agribus Legislation

In September 2015, Chairman Pat Roberts passed legislation that he authored to provide farmers and ranchers across the country much needed certainty to operate their businesses.

The Agriculture Reauthorizations Act of 2015, which passed unanimously in the Senate, reauthorized three programs: Mandatory Price Reporting (MPR), the National Forest Foundation Act and the U.S. Grain Standards Act (USGSA).

The first reauthorization in the bill, Mandatory Price Reporting, requires meat packers to inform the Agriculture Marketing Service (AMS) of the prices they are paying for cattle, hogs and lambs, and the prices they receive for wholesale meat cuts. Senator Roberts fought tirelessly to reauthorize the authority to provide this information that is critical for farmers and ranchers who raise livestock because it provides a landscape of the marketplace for livestock and meat and provides information for farmers and ranchers to utilize and make informed business decisions.

The second reauthorization in Senator Roberts' bill extended the authority for the National Forest Foundation, which expired in 1997. The National Forest Foundation is the non-profit partner of the U.S. Forest Service with the primary purpose of helping the agency restore and enhance our National Forests and Grasslands.

Lastly, the Agriculture Reauthorizations Act of 2015 reauthorized provisions of the U.S. Grain Standards Act that focus on improving transparency and predictability throughout the federal grain inspection system.

Specifically, the bill requires the Secretary of Agriculture to take immediate action and notify Congress if there is ever a disruption in inspection services. Senator Roberts advocated for these changes to help ensure that the reputation of the United States grain industry would not be damaged in the future due to unforeseen disruptions in inspections.

Biotech Disclosure Bill

The debate over the labeling of food products containing ingredients that have been produced using biotechnology has been a hot button issue in the United States for some time. However, in recent years, states passed legislation mandating labeling of these food products. The patchwork of requirements lacked consistency, increasing costs and creating havoc throughout the food and agriculture value chain. Senator Roberts realized the need for preemption of these laws in Vermont and other states. Instead, he favored a uniform, national standard that would not only give consumers information about the products they buy, but also promote sound science and protect American farmers' rights to plant the crops that are the most beneficial and safe to their businesses and land.

Senator Roberts worked tirelessly through 2016 in order to craft a bill that would balance the interests of both consumers and farmers. He worked across party lines in order to find Democrat co-sponsors and support. Ultimately his work paid off, receiving endorsements of the legislation from organizations up and down the value chain including farm groups, food processors and manufacturers, grocers, seed producers, health advocates and consumer groups. The American Farm Bureau Federation president, Zippy Duval, remarked that the bill allows "farmers to grow safe and healthful crops while reducing their environmental impact," and thanked Congress for quick action "to prevent consumer confusion and protect agricultural innovation."

The bill, which Kansas agriculture groups referred to as "critically important" to farmers across the state in a letter of support, requires the Secretary of Agriculture to establish a mandatory disclosure

standard for bioengineered foods. This disclosure may occur with text on the package, a symbol, or an electronic link to a website. The bill also protects a farmer's right to grow these crops by keeping the disclosure claims on food science-based and non-derogatory. As noted by Senator Roberts, "[This] legislation allows farmers to continue using sound science to produce more food with less resources, gives flexibility to food manufacturers in disclosing information, and gives access to more food information that consumers demand."

As votes on the bill drew closer, support continued to pour in from over 1,100 groups including the American Farm Bureau Federation, National Corn Growers Association, National Association

of Wheat Growers, American Soybean Association, National Grain and Feed Association, Grocery Manufacturers Association, Biotech Innovation Organization, Pet Food Institute, National Council of Farmer Cooperatives,

National Milk Producers Federation and the American Seed Trade Association. A coalition representing these diverse parties stated that Senator Roberts' bill "protects American farmers and small businesses while providing a consistent, transparent food disclosure framework for shoppers across America."

On July 29, 2016, Senator Roberts' bill was signed into law. S.764, which was passed 63-30 by the Senate and 306-117 in the House, was hailed as a success by agriculture and food groups both in Kansas and across the nation. Upon passage in the Senate, The New York Times reported that "a federal bill that would require labeling of foods made with genetically



Final vote for the Biotech Disclosure Bill occurred in the House of Representatives.

engineered ingredients passed a major hurdle in the Senate...significantly raising the odds that a national standard for labeling will put an end to a fight that has roiled the food industry for years.”

Upon passage of the bill, Senator Roberts remarked that, “we worked hard to ensure the marketplace works for everyone. I mean everyone. Our legislation allows farmers to continue using sound science to produce more food with less resources, gives flexibility to food manufacturers in disclosing information, and gives access to more food information that consumers demand.”

The legislation also served to avoid marketplace

disaster caused by an unnecessary and confusing patchwork of individual state-by-state labeling laws, such as the costly Vermont labeling law that had been in place since July 1, 2016.

Calling the vote on the bill the most important vote in agriculture policy in the last 20 years, Senator Roberts stated that, “today is a victory for farmers, ranchers, sound science, and anyone who eats on a budget. Getting to an agreement wasn’t easy, but today’s strong showing in the Senate is a result of the way we get things done in the Agriculture Committee—with hard work and bipartisanship.”

Conservation Programs

Conservation efforts to preserve the land our nation’s farmers use to grow healthy and abundant food, fuel and fiber have always been important to Senator Roberts.

It was Pat Roberts who had the vision to create the Conservation Reserve Program (CRP), which encourages farmers to convert highly erodible cropland or other environmentally sensitive acreage to vegetative cover. Then-Congressman Pat Roberts created the CRP in 1985 as part of the Farmland Conservation Acreage Reserve Act.

The CRP aims to reduce erosion on marginal agricultural lands by incentivizing farmers, ranchers, and other landowners to remove certain lands from production in order to plant vegetation and construct wetlands; supporting wildlife populations, improving water quality and protecting soil.

In the 30 years since CRP was put into practice by Roberts, the program has been highly successful. In Kansas, since the first year of CRP sign-ups, enrollment has increased from 42,000 acres in 1986 to over 2 million acres today.

Nationally, there are over 23 million acres enrolled in CRP encompassing over 625,000 contracts on 410,000 farms.

In the years since he first passed the CRP legislation in 1985, Senator Roberts has continued to be an advocate for the program. He authored measures in the 2014 Farm Bill that included a number of efficiencies and flexibilities to improve program performance and maintain CRP’s long-standing tradition of serving as a land performance and management tool for producers.

These programs have been extremely successful in incentivizing farmers to move land into acreage that can be used for many reasons, such as cultivated or native grasslands, or habitat and food for wildlife and pollinators. Likewise, they have also proven vital for haying and grazing purposes. During times of drought, Senator Roberts has advocated for emergency haying and grazing of CRP acres to give relief to livestock producers across Kansas, allowing ranchers and



Senator Roberts enjoys the view at the Arikaree Breaks, badlands in Rawlins County, Kansas.

livestock producers to save countless animals in the herds and avoiding devastating financial losses in the process.

Senator Roberts has also been an advocate for conservation programs such as Environmental Quality Incentives Program (EQIP) and CRP programs when crafting Farm Bill legislation.

In the 2014 Farm Bill, Senator Roberts fought to maintain conservation programs with core functions that farmers and ranchers use to achieve their economic and environmental objectives—building new opportunities to better manage risk, making a fair and balanced contribution to deficit reduction through increasing program flexibility, consolidating similar program functions and expanding leveraging capacity.

Pat Roberts also championed an amendment to

protect the EQIP program that provides financial and technical assistance to agricultural producers in order to address natural resource concerns and deliver environmental benefits such as improved water and air quality, conserved ground and surface water, reduced soil erosion and sedimentation or improved/created wildlife habitat.

Senator Roberts knows that Kansans have long realized the value of fertile soil, clean water and clean air. With conservation legislation and programs that he has championed, producers will be able to continue to improve the environment while still improving their bottom line.

This allows the children and grandchildren of farmers and ranchers to continue the way of life that their parents and grandparents had before them, as stewards of the land who grow the food for the world.

Country of Origin Labeling (COOL)

Country of Origin Labeling (COOL), which requires information detailing where livestock is born, raised and slaughtered was first authorized in the 2002 Farm Bill and amended in the 2008 Farm Bill.

Since its introduction, Senator Roberts identified COOL as a

possible trade violation and became a lead advocate for repeal of the law, even pushing for repeal during 2014 Farm Bill negotiations and through an amendment to the Highway Bill in 2015. As predicted,

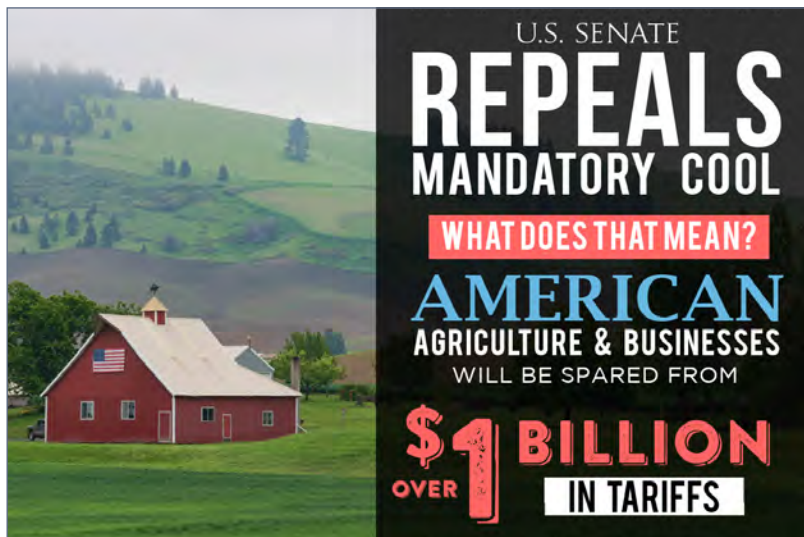
Canada and Mexico filed a joint case in the World Trade Organization (WTO) against the United States, stating that the law was a violation of trade agreements between the three countries.

In 2015, after the fourth separate occasion that the WTO found COOL to be a trade violation, Canada and Mexico were given permission to legally retaliate against American-made exported goods in the form of over \$1 billion in tariffs. Senator Roberts had long warned Congress about the possibility of retaliation, saying “For several

years now, the writing has been on the wall that U.S. COOL requirements for meat were doomed at the WTO. Since its inception, I have warned that retaliation was coming.”

In June 2015, the Senate Agriculture Committee,

chaired by Senator Roberts, held a hearing on COOL and trade retaliation, to show the impact it would have on many different industries across the country. As retaliation from Canada and



Mexico grew closer, Senator Roberts secured repeal of COOL in a year-end funding bill, thus avoiding over \$1 billion in retaliatory tariffs from our largest trading partners. Senator Roberts

praised this, by saying “With passage, American farmers, ranchers and small businesses will finally get the certainty they deserve from unnecessary trade retaliation.”

USDA School Meal Requirements

For several years, Senator Roberts had heard concerns from schoolchildren, parents, teachers, administrators and school foodservice providers in Kansas and across the country regarding the challenges of complying with rigid school food standards.

Several burdensome rules, written under the Obama administration, had limited the flexibility of school foodservice providers, led to declining participation in the program, increased food waste in school cafeterias and caused confusion regarding what foods can be used in fundraisers and extracurricular activities.

Due to these concerns, Senator Roberts led Congress in providing varying degrees of flexibility relating to these regulations since they were issued. He also urged the Trump administration and Secretary of Agriculture Sonny Perdue to provide relief from the certain egregious aspects of the standards, particularly in regards to sodium limits and dairy and whole grain requirements.

In May 2017, Senator Roberts and Secretary Perdue announced much needed regulatory changes to the National School Lunch Program, which included a postponement of damaging sodium requirements, an allowance for non-whole grain rich products and an allowance for 1% milkfat flavored milk to be served.



At the announcement of the changes, Secretary Perdue said, “This announcement is the result of years of feedback from students, schools, and food service experts about the challenges they are facing in meeting the final regulations for school meals. If kids aren’t eating the food, and it’s ending up in the trash, they aren’t getting any nutrition – thus undermining the intent of the program.”

The School Nutrition Association also applauded the decision, with CEO Patricia Montague saying, “This announcement is the result of years of feedback from students, schools, and food service experts about the challenges they are facing in meeting the final regulations for school meals.”

Hazardous Materials Endorsement Exemption for Agriculture Industry

In 2013, the U.S. Custom Harvesters and Agriculture Retailers approached Senator Roberts and expressed concerns about a burdensome regulation affecting the agriculture industry.

Federal Motor Carrier Safety Administration regulations required agriculture industry

professionals to obtain a hazardous material endorsement before transporting sufficient amounts of diesel fuel necessary for a number of agricultural operations. This requirement made it difficult for custom harvesters, farmers and other agriculture businesses to transport the amount of

“ S. 485 would help the agriculture industry operate more efficiently and recognize the needs of modern production agriculture. We appreciate your efforts and encourage other members of Congress to support [Senator Roberts] in this effort. ”

**U.S. CUSTOMS
HARVESTERS INDUSTRY**

fuel necessary for a single day of field operations.

After hearing their concerns, Senator Roberts introduced legislation that would exempt agribusiness participants from the requirement to obtain a hazardous material endorsement, while operat-

ing a service vehicle carrying diesel fuel in quantities of 1,000 gallons or less, if the tank containing diesel fuel was clearly marked. The exemption would improve the safety on the nation's roads by decreasing the number of trips agriculture businesses take between the field and the fueling station.

The legislation was endorsed by numerous agriculture industry professionals, including the American Farm Bureau Federation, the Kansas-based U.S. Custom Harvesters Industry and the Kansas Agri-business Retailers Association. In a

letter to Senator Roberts, industry supporters wrote, “S. 485 would help the agriculture industry operate more efficiently and recognize the needs of modern production agriculture. We appreciate your efforts and encourage other members of Congress to support [Senator Roberts] in this effort.”

After inaction in the Senate during the 113th Congress, Senator Roberts reintroduced the legislation in 2015. Working with the Senate Commerce Committee, Senator Roberts successfully included the exemption in the Senate highway bill (H.R. 22). During the Senate Commerce Committee markup, Senator Cory Booker (D-NJ) introduced an amendment to strike the hazardous materials endorsement exemption from the highway bill. Senator Roberts and agriculture industry professionals reached out to members of the Senate Commerce Committee and explained the need for the exemption. Due to overwhelming support from Senate Commerce Committee members, Senator Booker did not ask for a vote on his amendment and the exemption remained intact.

Following passage of the Senate and House highway bills, the final conference report included language that closely resembled the standalone legislation Senator Roberts' championed. Thanks to Senator Roberts' work on this issue, custom harvesters and agriculture retailers are now exempt from obtaining hazardous materials endorsement.

Disaster and Drought Assistance for Kansas Farmers and Ranchers

Farmers are not strangers to dealing with drought, bad weather and other natural disasters on a daily basis, and Kansas farmers are no different, having suffered many years of drought over the last two decades.

As a champion for Kansas agriculture and a strong safety net for farmers in the state, Senator Roberts has fought hard to give farmers the relief that their families and businesses need after prolonged droughts.

In the years leading up to the 2002 Farm Bill, many regions of the country, including Kansas, experienced an especially long and severe drought. In Kansas alone, the drought caused more than 1.5 million acres of wheat to be abandoned prior to harvest in 2001. In light of this, Senator Roberts championed an increase in funding to the Agricultural Marketing Transition Act (AMTA) payment because of his concerns that the new farm bill would not provide producers with assistance. Multiple times from 1999

until 2002, Senator Roberts fought for the nation's struggling farmers to receive the payments they needed through AMTA. This approach, which was supported by farm groups across Kansas and the country, gave farmers a safety net when they needed it most—when they had no crop to harvest.

In 2003, Senator Roberts championed a compromise to make sure that disaster funds from USDA would be sent to only those in need of assistance, rather than blanket payments to all farmers. In regards to this compromise, Senator Roberts said, "I promised Kansas producers I would work for real assistance instead of a political issue. This proposal is a common sense approach that delivers on that promise."

In 2004, Senator Roberts once again led the way in getting assistance for Kansas farmers and ranchers who were impacted by drought, through an amendment that was adopted into a supplemental bill for hurricane damaged states.

During debate on the 2014 Farm Bill, Senator Roberts worked to ensure that the Livestock Indemnity Program (LIP) and Livestock Forage Program (LFP) would be retroactively funded during 2011, 2012, and 2013, as they had expired in 2011. These programs, which provide livestock producers that have suffered catastrophic losses due to weather, fire, drought, or animal attacks, have been an extremely important safety net for farmers and ranchers in Kansas and around the nation.

Senator Roberts' push to retroactively fund these programs proved valuable as 2011-2013 were some of harshest drought years in the Great Plains in recent history.

Throughout the years of continued drought in Kansas, Senator Roberts has advocated for



Senator Roberts and Harold Stones listening to farmer Heath Leinen en route to Cheyenne County.

Conservation Reserve Program (CRP) acres to give relief to livestock producers across the state.

In addition to financial relief in periods of bad weather or drought, Senator Roberts has been a leader in looking for solutions to water shortages through research and best management practices.

He championed the Ogallala Aquifer Program—a consortium consisting of researchers from Kansas State University, several other universities and USDA-ARS to search for solutions to the depletion of groundwater from the Ogallala Aquifer. Due to that project, a team of agricultural economists across the institutions have collaborated on projects for the last ten years. These studies estimate the economic impact of reduced water withdrawals in the future due to the depletion of the Ogallala. The results from these studies have motivated policies to conserve the Ogallala for future use. Other studies funded by this project evaluate the cost effectiveness of alternative water management policies and the results have influenced changes in policy design for water management at the state and local level in the Southern Plains.

Conservation Reserve Program Grazing

In early March 2017, historical and unprecedented wildfires burned through southwest Kansas,



scorching more than 700,000 acres across 21 counties; the equivalent of about one-fifth of the state. It was the largest wildfire in Kansas history. In Clark County alone, 85 percent of the land was consumed along with roughly 10,000 head of cattle.

Immediately in the aftermath of the fire, Senator Roberts traveled to western Kansas to observe the damage and help those who had suffered start to rebuild. Senator Roberts worked with state officials in addition to Kansas producer groups, such as the Kansas Livestock Association and Kansas Farm Bureau, to lead the volunteer rebuilding effort, which included labor, fencing materials and hay donations from across the nation.

Senator Roberts also pressed leaders at the U.S. Department of Agriculture (USDA) and within the administration to use funds and programs like the Emergency Conservation Program, Livestock

Indemnity Program and the Environmental Quality Incentives Program for relief.

Many livestock producers were forced to euthanize badly burned cattle, but for those that survived, it was crucial to find land where they were able to graze for food.

In light of this, Senator Roberts sent a letter to Secretary of Agriculture Sonny Perdue requesting that the USDA extend emergency grazing on Conservation Reserve Program (CRP) lands for the starved cattle of western Kansas.

The Kansas Livestock Association President David Clawson responded to the letter by saying, “We appreciate the assistance of the Kansas congressional delegation in making disaster programs more effective for Kansas ranchers. We saw firsthand the strong working relationship between KLA and our members of Congress.”

Later that spring, USDA granted the senator’s call for relief and announced that the grazing period would be extended for those ranchers in need after the fire burned more than 700,000 acres of rangeland.

Of the decision, Acting Deputy Secretary of Agriculture Michael Young said, “Ranchers are facing devastating conditions and economic calamity because of these wildfires and they need some relief, or else they face the total loss of their herds in many cases,” Young said. “These measures will allow them to salvage what remains of their cattle and return to the important business of feeding Americans and the rest of the world.”

Crop Insurance and Farm Program Champion in Farm Bills and Beyond

Since writing the 1996 Farm Bill, also known as the Freedom to Farm Act, which at the time represented the most sweeping reforms to federal farm policy in over 60 years, Senator Roberts has played a pivotal role in three subsequent Farm Bills: 2002, 2008, and in 2014.

Under House Agriculture Chairman Roberts’ leadership and vision, the Freedom to Farm Act changed the way Americans thought of farming. It was no longer a government program that told farmers what not to plant; it was a program that gave farmers the freedom to plant what the market dictated. National news organizations like

The Washington Post, The Wall Street Journal and The New York Times endorsed the Roberts' bill for its revolutionary efforts.

Every farm bill represents multi-year pieces that authorize legislation governing an array of agricultural and food programs vital for farmers, ranchers and rural communities. Although no farm bill is ever perfect, Senator Roberts worked tirelessly on each one to protect the most important programs to Kansas farmers: crop insurance and a strong farmer safeguard.

Crop insurance plays an important role in providing a safeguard that producers need to manage their risk from one growing season to the next. The federal crop insurance program allows them to make planting and management decisions based upon the level of coverage they choose to obtain, and it also allows farmers to work with their lenders to obtain the credit they need to manage their operations.

In 1999, Senator Roberts worked with Senator Bob Kerrey (D-NE) to introduce comprehensive reforms and improvements to the crop insurance program. That proposal eventually led to the passage of the Agriculture Risk Protection Act (ARPA) in 2000. This legislation significantly increased the level of government support and lowered producer premiums. As a result, there has been a significant increase in producer participation in the program since that time. Many producers in Kansas have indicated that crop insurance was the only thing that allowed them to stay in business during several years of significant crop losses.

In the 2002 Farm Bill, written by Senators Harkin and Daschle, Senator Roberts fought to keep the farm safety net strong and robust through additional legislation to provide timely supplemental assistance to farmers, rather than the final bill language, which would not send out payments until the harvest of the following years' crop. Senator Roberts argued that the final language would not protect farmers in their worst years, citing Kansas wheat farmers who, under the proposed language, would not have received



counter-cyclical assistance in many years during the ongoing drought. Due to these concerns, in addition to \$2 billion in cuts to the crop insurance program, Senator Roberts could not vote in favor of the bill.

Over the next five years, Senator Roberts' foresight proved correct as many Kansas farmers did not receive timely and sufficient relief during drought years, under the policy set forth in the 2002 Farm Bill. While fighting for the relief that so many farmers in Kansas and other drought stricken areas of the country badly needed, Senator Roberts stated that, "In 2000, we made reforms to the crop insurance program that have improved that portion of the safety net for our producers in need. However, as I said when I voted against the current farm bill, it does not assist producers when they need it most, when there is no crop to harvest due to disaster. That is exactly what has happened for many producers in Kansas, and here we are again talking about another disaster bill."

As the 2002 Farm Bill got closer to expiring, Senator Roberts played an important role in shaping the discussion that outlined the 2007 Farm Bill, noting the need for changes to the farm preventive measures after seeing the impact of years of drought and the need for constant disaster relief for farmers in affected areas. With this in mind, Senator Roberts became a champion for programs that would both be beneficial to all farmers, in the good years and bad years, as well



as lessen trade distortion in the eyes of the World Trade Organization (WTO). Senator Roberts also spoke on the need for a proper balance between commodity and conservation programs, saying, “It is a constant struggle in Congress as to whether a majority of the funds should go to commodity or conservation programs. We really need to think about how these programs fit together. Conservation programs are receiving more interest and attention from Congress in every farm bill, and I expect that to continue into 2007.”

As debate over the 2007 Farm Bill continued, Senator Roberts publicly stated that any new farm bill proposal should not include any cuts to direct payments by the federal crop insurance program, saying, “Efforts to minimize, cut, trim or reduce these programs will not sit well in farm country, and certainly not with this member. In many cases these programs are the only reason producers are able to secure loans and stay in the business of farming.” In addition to his comments, Senator Roberts also sent a letter to Senate Agriculture Chairman Tom Harkin (D-IA) and Ranking Member Saxby Chambliss (R-GA) expressing his concern over any proposals that would weaken the safety net for producers.

Senator Roberts spoke at length in support of these programs during debate over the bill in the Senate Agriculture Committee and was pleased that the committee unanimously passed a bill that

made no cuts to direct payment rates and, through an amendment he offered, removed the connection between crop insurance and the Average Crop Revenue (ACR) program, protecting the viability of the program for Kansas producers.

In the conservation title, Senator Roberts worked with his colleagues to include an amendment that protects the Environmental Quality Incentives Program (EQIP). Senator Roberts also got language from his “Open Fields” Act included in the bill, which opened up more than 10 million new acres of private land to the public each year by allowing each state to design access programs to fit the needs of their state’s sportsmen and landowners. Once the bill passed the full Senate, Senator Roberts was named to the Farm Bill conference committee, a committee tasked with ironing out the differences between the House and Senate passed versions of the Farm Bill, allowing him to work on a conference report that reflected the best interests of Kansas and the nation’s farmers and ranchers. After overriding a presidential veto, the bill was passed in June 2008.

In April of 2012, as the 2008 Farm Bill was nearing expiration, Senator Roberts, as the Ranking Member of the Senate Agriculture Committee, introduced a new farm bill to the committee with Chairwoman Debbie Stabenow

(D-MI) that would save nearly \$23 billion and consolidate nearly 100 programs while ensuring critical safety nets are improved to allow farmers and ranchers to continue to meet exploding global demand for food and fiber. Senators Roberts and Stabenow fought for Senate floor consideration to have an open amendment process, which was very unusual under the leadership of then-Majority Leader Harry Reid. The first amendment debated was on Afghanistan, totally unrelated to the Farm Bill, but consistent with the open amendment process of deliberation in the Senate.

The bipartisan bill was approved by the full Senate. However, the House was unable to approve its own Farm Bill due to debates over dairy provisions and a highly partisan fight over separating the bill's nutrition programs from the farm programs.

With the 2008 Farm Bill set to expire in September of 2012, Senator Roberts introduced a bill to provide emergency disaster assistance and to extend the Farm Bill to help America's farmers and ranchers suffering from a historic drought. The bill helped producers who have had livestock deaths due to disaster with assistance through the Livestock Indemnity Program (LIP) and assisted producers who experienced forage losses due to disaster through the Livestock Forage Disaster Program (LFP).

After the 2008 Farm Bill was extended an extra year until September 2013, the Senate Agriculture Committee returned to work on a new Farm Bill under Chairwoman Debbie Stabenow and Ranking Member Thad Cochran (R-MS). Although the newly proposed bill contained many good provisions written by Senator Roberts in 2012, such as disaster aid to livestock producers, enhancements to conservation programs, an innovative approach for agriculture research, and some improvements to crop insurance, he voted against the bill in both the Senate Agriculture Committee and the Senate floor, saying "this is not the best bill possible for farmers and ranchers or the taxpayer." He cited disappointment in the bill's inclusion of target prices, a policy that could distort the market, causing excess supplies and depressed prices. Senator Roberts was also concerned about the amount of spending in the bill,

especially in the Supplemental Nutrition Assistance Program (SNAP), offering an amendment to save taxpayers \$31 billion by restoring integrity to the SNAP program through a series of reforms. The amendment would have ended millions of dollars in bonuses to certain states for simply administering the program, eliminated billions in redundant education and training programs found elsewhere in the federal government and other adjustments that allow the SNAP program to focus on serving those most in need. Ultimately the bill was signed into law by President Obama in February 2014.

In 2015, Senator Roberts became chairman of the Senate Agriculture Committee, becoming the first member of Congress to be Chairman and Ranking Member of the Agriculture Committees in both the Senate and House of Representatives.

As Chairman, Senator Roberts is first and foremost a voice for farmers, ranchers, small businesses and rural communities. He is conducting rigorous and thorough oversight of the departments and agencies within the committee's jurisdiction.

As the champion for farmers in the Senate, Chairman Roberts was instrumental in protecting the farm safety-net during votes for the Bipartisan Budget Act of 2015, which included \$3 billion in cuts to the crop insurance program. Chairman Roberts, along with leadership from the House Agriculture Committee, secured a promise from leadership in both the House and the Senate to fix the cuts made to the crop insurance program. The cuts would have devastated the crop insurance industry, taking away the safety net that farmers need.

It's no wonder that Fox News Sunday anchor Chris Wallace called Pat Roberts "the very highly respected chairman of the Senate Agriculture Committee" (1/17/16) and that he has received numerous agriculture industry awards for his service to the needs of American farmers and ranchers throughout his public service career.

Wasting no time in the 115th Congress, Chairman Roberts kicked off discussions for the 2018 Farm Bill with a hearing at his alma mater, Kansas State University, in Manhattan, Kansas. During this

hearing, Chairman Roberts and Ranking Member Debbie Stabenow (D-MI) heard testimony from Kansas Secretary of Agriculture Jackie McClaskey, Congressman Roger Marshall and Kansas State University President General Richard Myers, as well as 20 other representatives from Kansas farm groups, community banks and rural cooperatives, among others.

Senator Roberts often reminds the members of the Agriculture Committee that he is a “Chairman for all of agriculture across the country.” As

such, Senator Roberts followed the successful Kansas Farm Bill hearing with similar hearings and events in Michigan, the home state of Ranking Member Stabenow, as well as in Montana and Alabama.

At the same time, Senator Roberts got down to business in Washington. Even though the deadline for a new Farm Bill wasn’t until September 2018, Senator Roberts held hearings for all titles of the Farm Bill by the end of September 2017, a full year ahead of schedule.

Agriculture Nominations

As Chairman of the Senate Agriculture Committee, Senator Roberts has the task of confirming presidential nominees for the USDA and several other agencies. The first of President Trump’s nominees to seek approval from Senator Roberts and the Agriculture Committee was the nominee to be Secretary for the Department of Agriculture, former Georgia Governor Sonny Perdue.

On March 23, 2017, Senator Roberts and the Agriculture Committee held a hearing to question Perdue, followed by a bipartisan voice vote on March 30 to report him favorably out of the Committee.

On April 5, 2017, Perdue, who had bipartisan support from the past six Agriculture Secretaries, as well as more than 650 agriculture groups from across the country, was confirmed by the full Senate on an

87-11 vote.

Following the vote, Senator Roberts said, “I’m pleased that the U.S. Senate was able to work in a bipartisan fashion to confirm Governor Perdue,” Roberts said. “I have faith that Governor Perdue will put the needs of farmers and ranchers first,

and I know that rural America is thankful to have such a qualified Agriculture Secretary on their side.”

In addition to Secretary Perdue, in 2017 the Senate Agriculture Committee approved the administration’s 11 nominees to serve in roles at the Department of Agriculture, the Commodity Futures Trading Commission

(CFTC), and the Farm Credit Administration in a bipartisan fashion. Eight of the nominees were confirmed by the Senate by the year’s end.



International Food Aid

Providing food for those in need has always been an important issue for Senator Roberts during his tenure in Congress. He demonstrated his commitment in 2003 when he fought for the

McGovern-Dole International Food for Education and Child Nutrition Program, which incentivizes hungry children in poor nations around the world to go to school by offering them a free meal.

The program started by former U.S. Senator Bob Dole (R-KS) and George McGovern (D-SD) began as an experiment in 2001 and was then made permanent in the 2002 Farm Bill. In 2003, the Bush administration put forth a proposal to move the program from the Department of Agriculture (USDA) to the U.S. Agency for International Development (USAID).

Senator Roberts, a member of the Senate Agriculture Committee, argued that USDA, with decades of experience running both school lunch and several international food aid programs, was the rightful agency to run the McGovern-Dole program. He also argued that the move would interrupt vital assistance in the coming year.

Senator Roberts argued these points in a letter to President Bush that included signatures from all 100 U.S. senators whom Senator Roberts had convinced to join him in his efforts, a rarity in Congress.



Senator Roberts addresses the Friends of the World Food Program after receiving the World Food Program Leadership in the Fight Against Hunger Award, May 2004.

In response to the letter, then-Secretary of USDA Ann Veneman said that USDA would permanently run the McGovern-Dole International Food for Education program, saying “This program demonstrates America’s compassion to improve

the lives of children around the world.”

Of the issue, the AP wrote on March 11, 2003, “Senators usually have aides collect support for their ideas. But when the Bush administration wanted to make changes to an international

food program, Kansas Senator Pat Roberts did the work himself, buttonholing each of his 99 colleagues to sign a letter of protest...He personally convinced each of his 99 colleagues to sign a letter protesting the move, a task usually done with congressional staffers and rarely with every senator’s support.”

Food and Medicine as a Weapon

In the late nineties, the United States had in place sanctions on more than 70 nations representing nearly three-fourths of the world’s population. Unilateral sanctions cost U.S. businesses more than \$20 billion a year and translated to 200,000 lost jobs.

Upon joining the Senate in 1997, Senator Roberts used his agriculture and trade expertise to launch an attack on unilateral sanctions. At that time, Roberts understood that unilateral U.S. sanctions shut U.S. wheat farmers out of an estimated 10 percent of the world wheat market. The lifting of sanctions on food meant U.S. wheat farmers could export an additional 4.1 million metric tons of wheat that year—a value of almost \$500 million.

In 1998, his bill to exempt agriculture commodities from sanctions on India and Pakistan was signed into law, resulting in a \$37 million sale of wheat to Pakistan. Later that same year, Senator Roberts’ measure giving the president more flexibility to ease all sanctions on Pakistan and India became law as part of the fiscal year 1999 Omnibus Appropriations Bill.

Senate Majority Leader Trent Lott (R-MS) named Roberts to a bipartisan 18 member Senate Task Force on Economic Sanctions, which reviewed current U.S. sanctions, their implementation, and effectiveness.

Roberts realized lifting sanctions on these nations was not only an opportunity for Kansas producers, but could be used as a tool for peace.

Freedom to Farm

“ Roberts' bill would allow U.S. farmers to play from America's strength, while weaning them from dependence on the taxpayer. It would be a major improvement over the current system...The Freedom to Farm Act should also be seen as bell-weather for the new GOP Congress. This is the best opportunity to reform agriculture in a generation. ”

THE KANSAS CITY STAR

Agriculture has always been the backbone of the Kansas economy and the center of its heritage and identity.

Throughout his public service career, Senator Roberts has always been a champion for Kansas farmers. He has fought for smart policy reforms, defending crop insurance and other farm safety net programs that so many farmers rely on and cutting government red tape that stands in the way of farmers doing their jobs. American farmers, with Kansans leading the way, grow the highest quality food, fuel and fiber in the world.

Among his other duties in these positions, Senator Roberts has worked every five years to craft a new farm bill, a multi-year piece of authorizing legislation that governs an array of agricultural and foods

programs that are vital for farmers, ranchers, and rural communities.

In 1996, as chairman of the House Agriculture

Committee, Chairman Roberts drafted the Federal Agriculture Improvement and Reform Act, also known as Freedom to Farm or, simply, the 1996 Farm Bill.

Freedom to Farm was one of the major reform bills passed in the 104th Congress, changing the traditional subsidy system to a more market-oriented program. At the time, these changes represented the most sweeping reforms to federal farm policy in over 60 years. This legislation proved that government does not have to be involved in farmers' planting decisions. It gave farmers the right tools to compete in the global market and improve the environment by encouraging more crop rotation to reduce the use of chemicals, pesticides and fertilizers and, in the end, saved taxpayers \$10 billion.

In addition to enhancing the farm safety net, this critical legislation strengthened international trade programs for agriculture and reoriented food aid programs towards greater market development. The Freedom to Farm Act also reauthorized the Food Stamp Program, made important improvements for agricultural research and rural development and maintained conservation programs like the highly successful Conservation Reserve Program (CRP).

The Kansas City Star praised this legislation, saying, “Roberts' bill would allow U.S. farmers to play from America's strength, while weaning them from dependence on the taxpayer. It would be a major improvement over the current system...The Freedom to Farm Act should also be seen as bell-weather for the new GOP Congress. This is the best opportunity to reform agriculture in a generation.”

Lesser Prairie Chicken

For more than 30 years, the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service (FWS) considered listing the lesser prairie chicken (LPC) under the Endangered Species Act. Native to the Midwest, the lesser prairie chicken's habitat covers a large portion of southwestern Kansas. Understanding the negative impact federal protections for the

LPC would have on the state of Kansas, Senator Roberts championed efforts in Congress to prevent FWS from adding the LPC to the Endangered Species List.

In 1998, FWS identified the LPC as a candidate for federal listing under the Endangered Species

Act. For a number of years, the LPC remained a warranted but precluded species, but, in 2008, FWS raised the listing priority number for the species from an eight to a two. However, little data was provided to support the major shift in priority.

In September of 2011, the U.S. District Court for the District of Columbia approved two far-reaching settlement agreements between the Center for Biological Diversity, WildEarth Guardians, and FWS that required FWS to make listing decisions under the Endangered Species Act on more than 650 species over a five-year period. Initiating the listing process for the LPC was part of the terms of the five-year listing plan approved by the U.S. District Court for the District of Columbia.

In February 2012, Senator Roberts and other senators who represented states within the LPC habitat wrote to Interior Secretary Salazar requesting the information utilized by FWS to change the listing priority number from an eight to a two. The group of senators also sent a letter in June 2012, following up on their concerns about the changes in the LPCs Listing Priority Number. Given the ten years the lesser prairie chicken spent as a relatively low priority candidate species, the letter provided current data produced by the National Resource Conservation Services, state wildlife agencies, and regional universities showing that the LPC population and habitat were robust and, therefore, did not warrant a listing as either threatened or endangered.

During a time of severe drought in the Midwest, the LPC habitat declined due to natural and not manmade causes. However, in November 2012, FWS proposed to list the LPC as threatened under the Endangered Species Act. In response to this listing, Senator Roberts sent a letter to FWS requesting a 60-day extension to the public comment period. FWS granted this request.

In June 2013, Senator Roberts asked for and

received a six-month extension of the listing determination. This extension created additional time for FWS to review the comments submitted by concerned Kansans who would be negatively impacted by the listing.



In October 2013, FWS endorsed the range-wide plan that was developed by state fish and wildlife agencies and Western Association of Fish and Wildlife Agencies (WAFWA). This plan was developed to promote voluntary conservation in the

LPC habitat and avoid a threatened listing. Following approval of the range-wide plan, in January 2014, Senator Roberts led a Kansas delegation letter to FWS Director Ashe, requesting the public comment period be extended. In response, on January 28, FWS reopened the public comment period for 14 days.

As the listing drew near, in Kansas, oil and gas producers were forced to make costly business decisions in order to continue oil and gas production, and farmers and ranchers feared this listing would force them to idle agriculture production. In March 2014, overlooking these concerns and the negative economic impacts, FWS added the LPC as a threatened species.

“I have actively opposed listing the Lesser Prairie Chicken, especially during an ongoing drought and when it causes considerable economic hardship for Kansans,” Roberts said. “We have voluntary efforts, both public and private, at the state and local level to improve the Prairie Chicken population. Fish and Wildlife should have taken these efforts into consideration before determining if this bird needs federal protection. I am disappointed Fish and Wildlife ignored our attempts to conserve the prairie chicken’s habitat and moved ahead with the listing. We will fight to undo this foolish and overly prescriptive rule.”

Following the listing of the LPC, in July 2014, WAFWA announced a 20 percent increase in the

LPC population over the previous year, rising to 22,415 birds. Many attributed the positive population numbers to increased rainfall in the LPC habitat.

In response to the LPC listing, lawsuits were filed by multiple groups and government entities, including the state of Kansas. While many of the cases were stalled in the court system, in September 2015, a decision by the U.S. District Court for the Western District of Texas vacated FWS's listing of the LPC as a threatened species. Due to this decision, FWS was unable to enforce federal protections for the species. In May 2016, FWS abandoned its efforts to appeal the decision. The agency

delisted the lesser prairie chicken, lifting all federal protections in July 2016.

"I have said all along that with a little rain, we will see the lesser prairie chicken population bounce back," Roberts said. "As we have come to expect with the Obama administration, they never let common sense get in the way of a costly regulation."

In 2017, FWS announced plans to initiate another review of the LPC and determine if it warrants an endangered species listing. Senator Roberts continues to be vigilant and monitor any attempts by FWS to provide federal protections for the LPC.

Waters of the United States (WOTUS)



A consistent defender of the balance of power and the rights of citizens, Senator Roberts has led the fight against over-regulation and the abuse of executive power.

In March of 2014, the Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) and the Army Corp of Engineers proposed a new rule to define the "Water of the United States" (WOTUS) under the Clean Water Act. The rule greatly expanded the waters regulated under the Clean Water Act, not only encroaching on the rights of states and private property owners, but also increasing uncertainty over the economic effects EPA regulation would have on farmers and ranchers.

To ensure that common sense would prevail, Senator Roberts urged Kansans to review the proposal and submit comments for the record during the rule-making process about how it would affect them and their livelihoods. He joined the senators of the Western Caucus in calling for the EPA to halt its overt expansion of powers. When it came to light that the EPA was running a publicity campaign for the proposed rule to artificially increase supportive comments, Senator Roberts condemned the solicitation that led to a glut of input about the importance of clean water without any detail or real explanation. He pointed out that the strategy was not in the best interest of obtaining fair and balanced input even as the Administrator of the EPA used the results to claim widespread support for the rule.

The EPA's failure to yield to the concerns of many Americans in the public comment period prompted the Senate to introduce a series of bills aimed at blocking the new rule and sending it back to the drawing board. Senator Roberts worked closely with his colleagues to sponsor several pieces of legislation including the Senate Joint Resolution under the Congressional Review Act, which provided the official Congressional disapproval of WOTUS and passed the Senate in November of 2015.

Senator Roberts used one of his first hearings as Chairman of the Senate Committee on Agriculture, Nutrition and Forestry to focus public attention on the impacts WOTUS would have on rural America. Across two panels, composed of witnesses from state agencies and local stakeholders, the committee heard a consistent message about the encroachment of the EPA rule on states’

rights and the economic consequences for farmers, ranchers, and rural communities.

Likewise, Senator Roberts praised the August 2015 District Court decision that halted the implementation of WOTUS for several states and promised to “continue to keep fighting the good fight to push back against EPA’s federal overreach.”

Rural Fugitive Dust

In 1993 under the Clinton administration, the Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) published a rule that “rural fugitive dust,” a term given to dust that does not originate from one specific source, could pose a threat to the environment and public health.

As silly as the idea seemed, this ruling would have negatively impacted countless farmers and other Kansans in rural areas with over-burdensome regulations on how to handle the fugitive dust. Then-Congressman Roberts responded with outrage, calling the report dangerously out of touch with rural America where dusty farm roads are an everyday part of life.

Roberts thought the Washington EPA regulators needed a little education on the topic so he invited the EPA Administrator to Kansas to see firsthand how farmers and ranchers manage dust. As congressman to Kansas’ Big First District, Roberts led a group of rural-state members of Congress in opposing these ridiculous standards. Not long after Roberts and his colleagues started raising objections, the EPA dropped the plan.

While individual regulators may come and go, the EPA’s desire to regulate never tires. Eighteen years later, in 2011 under the Obama administration, a

similar rule was once again introduced by the EPA. Senator Roberts responded by cosponsoring the Farm Dust Regulation Prevention Act of 2011 with Senator Mike Johanns (R-NE). The bill not only reversed the proposed rule, but also allowed state and localities the flexibility to address any rural dust issues before the federal government would have the authority to do so.

Speaking about the proposed rule, Senator Roberts said, “This proposal makes you scratch your head, because it simply defies common sense. Whether it is cattle kicking up dust in a feedlot in Larned, Kansas, or wheat being harvested on a hot afternoon on the High Plains in June, dust is a naturally-occurring event.”

“It is critical to recognize that no one cares more about maintaining a clean environment than the American farmer and rancher, who know firsthand that clean air and water and healthy soil go hand-in-hand with a healthy economy. Our producers deserve respect and appreciation from the EPA, not costly and redundant regulation.”

As a result of Senator Roberts’ tireless work, the EPA once again rescinded its rule against “rural fugitive dust.”



Defense

BRAC/Preventing Force Structure Cuts

As the most senior Marine in Congress, protecting our men and women in uniform has always been a top priority for Senator Roberts.

He understands that we owe our servicemembers a debt of gratitude. It is because of this obligation that he has steadily worked to provide the best equipment, training and support for all of our warfighters during his Senate career.

Senator Roberts has also worked to provide for the families and loved ones back home, who often carry the burden of maintaining the household alone until their spouse returns from the battlefield. It is important that our nation provides for our warfighters in theater, on base and, especially, in our communities.

During the last major Defense Base Closure and Realignment Commission (BRAC) round in

2005, Senator Roberts served as a senior member of the Senate Armed Services Committee. He anticipated the losses that could come as a result of the BRAC and began working several years in advance to ensure Kansas' military installations had what they needed to provide relevant and ready forces for the nation's defense.

Senator Roberts also helped lead the Kansas delegation and a dedicated team of state and local officials in coordinated efforts to demonstrate to the Department of Defense that Kansas installations not only fulfill critical missions, but they also were enthusiastically supported by their communities and the state.

As a result of the senator's foresight and multi-year approach to building up Kansas' installations, Kansas was rewarded with a major accomplishment that many thought was impossible to

achieve: the return of the Big Red One division headquarters to Fort Riley.

Roberts also worked to ensure that the Intellectual Center of the Army, the Command and Staff General College, remained at Fort Leavenworth in the new and improved Lewis and Clark Center.

Overall, Kansas gained 3,600 additional military personnel as a part of the national base realignment.

At the Center's dedication ceremony on August 13, 2007, Fort Leavenworth's Commanding General, Lt. General William B. Caldwell IV, said, "We would not be standing here if not for Senator Roberts. Your mark is so indelibly left on this building, if it were not named for Lewis and Clark, it would certainly have been named for Senator Pat Roberts."

Unfortunately, the 2005 BRAC would not be the last effort to cut defense spending. In 2014-15, the military faced another round of budget cuts, and, again, the Army examined where tough cuts could be made. Senator Roberts remained true to his promise to fight hard for Kansas' installations, the communities surrounding them and our warfighters. He led the delegation in its support for maintaining the division headquarters at Fort Riley and keeping nearly 15,000 soldiers on post at the Army's listening sessions during the Supplemental Programmatic Environmental Assessment (SPEA) in 2014. Fortunately, the Army listened, and Fort Riley



To thank Senator Roberts for his support of Ft. Riley, leading to the return of the "Big Red One" from Germany. Commanders presented him with one of two existing First Infantry Division flags.

received less than a one percent cut in 2015.

Senator Roberts will continue to remind the Army of the investments it has made to Fort Riley and Fort Leavenworth and of the payoff we see in the soldiers we train to be mission-ready for whatever national security threat we face. But just as important, Senator Roberts will remind them of the communities who embrace Fort Riley, Fort Leavenworth, McConnell Air Force Base, Forbes Field, and the men and women in uniform and their families.

Simply put, Kansas is the best home to the armed forces — with Pat Roberts as their champion.

Father Kapaun — Medal of Honor

During the Korean War, Father Emil Kapaun, a Kansas native, served as a chaplain of the 8th Cavalry Regiment of the First Army Division. Amidst the devastating Battle of Unsan in November 1950 — now in present day North Korea — Father Kapaun stayed on the battlefield, dragging wounded soldiers to safety and attending to their injuries.

Eventually, he was taken prisoner along with other American soldiers, but he continued his God-given mission. When Father Kapaun's fellow prisoners were too sick to care for themselves, he washed them and attended to their injuries. He often sacrificed his own portion of food for them. His



Father Kapaun conducting a field Mass on the hood of his jeep.

countless acts of generosity continued until his own death from injury on May 23, 1951, seven months after being taken prisoner.

Since the Korean War, personal accounts of Father Kapaun's sacrifice and service have come to light.

Along with the rest of the Kansas delegation, Senator Roberts long led the effort to recognize the heroic and life-saving actions by Father Kapaun in the Korean War.

After the Army agreed that Father Kapaun's service warranted the Medal of Honor, in 2009, Senator Roberts, then-Senator Brownback and then-Congressman Tiahrt introduced legislation to waive the time limits usually required for a posthumus Medal of Honor so that aging fellow POWs who had served with Father Kapaun could see him honored while they were still alive. Senator Roberts reintroduced the bill during the 112th Congress.

Congress passed the 2012 National Defense Authorization Bill, which included a Roberts amendment that paved the way to awarding the Medal of Honor to Father Emil Kapaun.

In April 2013, thanks in part to Senator Roberts' efforts, Father Kapaun was awarded the Medal of Honor posthumously by the President.

The LA Times wrote about Senator Roberts and the Kansas delegations' efforts, "Kansas lawmakers shepherded the legislation to passage in early 2012, allowing the Army Secretary's recommendation to proceed to the Department of Defense, where it lingered until early this year. In January, Sen. Pat Roberts (R-Kan.) called outgoing Defense Secretary Leon E. Panetta to tell him there was 'one thing he just had to do' before leaving office—get Kapaun the medal. Panetta agreed, Roberts said, pushing the request to Obama, who approved it."

Senator Roberts is proud to be part of the effort to award Father Kapaun the Medal of Honor. By all the historical accounts and eyewitness testimony of his quiet heroism, Father Kapaun was more than deserving of this award. Senator Roberts was honored to attend the White House ceremony with Kapaun's relatives and with many of the POW's who fought to honor their inspirational and devoted fellow soldier and Father.

GITMO

As President Obama's first act in the White House in January 2009, he signed an executive order to close the military detention facility at Guantanamo Bay (GITMO) within one year. Senator Roberts strongly opposed the President's hasty

decision, regarding it as foolish by putting American's security at risk. Fortunately, Senator Roberts stopped the president from achieving his goal—twice!

Fort Leavenworth Becomes a Target:

In August 2009, a leak from the Pentagon revealed that President Obama was looking at Fort Leavenworth as one of two locations for relocating the 229 terrorists detained at GITMO. Immediately, Senator Roberts made it clear to the president that he would shut down the entire Senate before a single detainee was moved to Fort Leavenworth.

Senator Roberts immediately put a hold on 10 of the president's nominees. Of greatest importance to President Obama was the senator's good friend and former colleague, John McHugh, nominee for Secretary of the Army.

Not one to make idle threats or hold nominations on a whim, Roberts felt the consequences merited these actions. Moving terrorists to the intellectual center of the Army at Fort Leavenworth threatened the mission of the base and endangered an entire community. There was no way to secure the facility from the outside-in and no control over what people the terrorists would attract to the surrounding communities.

Luckily, McHugh did not hold this against the senator and they still call one another friends.

To energize the community and harness their outrage at the possibility of housing these



Senator Roberts and staff tour the U.S. Disciplinary Barracks at Fort Leavenworth.

terrorists in Kansas, Senator Roberts held a widely attended town hall meeting in Leavenworth. The opposition to the president's move was overwhelming.

After Congress returned in September, the president was anxious to get his nominees through. But he had spent so little time in Congress that he wasn't familiar with just how long Senator Roberts was prepared to hold his nominees nor how serious his threats were to shut down the Senate.

After several phone calls between the president's chief of staff and the senator's office, just before midnight, the White House verbally promised to take Leavenworth out of the running if Senator Roberts would let McHugh's nomination go

through. Senator Roberts did, and Fort Leavenworth was taken off the list.

As Lloyd Lambert of Raymore, Kansas, told the *Kansas City Star* in his letter to the editor on August 12, 2009, "[Senator Roberts'] 10 points come from his experiences as a U.S. Senator and former Marine, and he explains with real understanding of what such a move would mean and cost. I agree we should leave the situation as it is, which would save our nation from spending the millions of dollars that could be used more beneficially in this time of financial need. People who write from both sides of this issue too often do so based more on emotion than on the factual understanding expressed by the senator. We need more national leadership that is able to understand these facts he has presented."

President Obama Threatens Kansas Six Years Later:

Unfortunately, not everyone keeps their promises. In 2015, the president reawakened his desire to close Guantanamo Bay. He re-issued his promise to transfer the remaining detainees—the enemy combatants too dangerous to transfer to the custody of another government—to a facility on the U.S. mainland.

Congress had expressly prohibited the president from using funds to transfer or release detainees to the U.S. every year since 2009. With only 18 months left to achieve his legacy of closing Gitmo, Obama announced that if he could not get Congress to agree to close it, he would do it

by Executive Order. Even more disappointing, President Obama then directed a site survey team to Fort Leavenworth to collect data on the possibility of using the U.S. Disciplinary Barracks.

These teams also visited the Naval Brig in South Carolina and two prison sites in Colorado. However, with Senator Roberts' support Congress has expressly prohibited the president from using funds to transfer or release detainees to the U.S. every year since 2009, in the National Defense Authorization Act. For some, including the state Attorney Generals in Kansas, South Carolina, and

Colorado, the site survey teams arguably violated federal statute and could have resulted in cause for a lawsuit against the president.

With the threat of an Executive Order, Senator Roberts once again used his legislative power. In August 2015, he announced he had placed a legislative hold on Eric Fanning, the president's nominee to serve as Secretary of the Army—just as he had done in 2009.

Senator Roberts also circulated a petition in Kansas to show the high level of disapproval for moving detainees to Kansas. Within days, the petition garnered more than 11,000 signatures.

In 2016, Senator Roberts re-engaged with the administration and began discussions on how to take Fort Leavenworth out of the running and move Fanning's nomination forward. In the end, Deputy Secretary of Defense Robert Work requested a meeting with Senator Roberts, where he gave his personal assurance that as executor of any movement of detainees, it would be impossible for the Pentagon to close Gitmo, even under an Executive Order.



Simply put, Senator Roberts had succeeded in running out the clock on President Obama's promise. Physically moving detainees from Gitmo to the mainland was an impossible task in the administration's remaining days.

Simultaneously, Senator Roberts secured language in the Senate's version of the National Defense Authorization Act to further prohibit the administration from circumventing the will of Congress by prohibiting any reprogramming of funds to support the transfer of detainees. This included a prohibition on funding for a comprehensive survey of potential sites on the U.S. mainland.

Today, Senator Roberts can claim victory for stopping the closure of Gitmo. Twice he stopped President Obama from completing his campaign promise. President Trump has indicated he will continue operations at Guantanamo Bay and has no intention of closing the facility or moving detainees to the mainland.

Parsons—Kansas Army Ammunition Plant

Senator Roberts considers the successful closure—and take over by the Great Plains Redevelopment Authority—of the former Kansas Army Ammunitions Plant in Parsons to be one of his crowning achievements. It's a modern day David vs. Goliath story and a shining example of what a dedicated, grassroots community effort can do with a little assistance from their U.S. Senator.

As then-Association of Defense Communities (ADC) President Bob Murdock said to the Hays Post on June 13, 2013, "Senator Roberts has never stopped fighting for defense communities in Kansas, including taking on a seven-year battle to redevelop the former Kansas Army Ammunition Plant to bring jobs back to rural Labette County. Roberts' tireless and successful efforts in that fight have earned him ADC's inaugural Congressional Leadership Award."

It all began when the Kansas Army Ammunition Plant in Parsons, Kansas, was slated for Base Realignment and Closure (BRAC) in 2005. While the news of military job losses in Parsons was unwelcome, the enterprising people of the community saw it as an opportunity to develop the property for the private sector, replacing the military losses with new jobs.

The Army agreed, and it was expected to be one of the first properties to transfer over to the community. Unfortunately, red tape delayed the process for seven years. During that time, Senator Roberts stood with the people of Parsons, fighting for them as delays and disagreements spanned battles with two presidential administrations, the U.S. Army and the Environmental Protection Agency (EPA).

The EPA, in one instance, tried to make Kansas a national example of its regulations for pesticides and lead-based paint. Because of this, Senator Roberts took the EPA to task through relentless letters, phone calls and meetings. In the end, the senator was able to get the EPA to back down.

But, when one battle ended, it always seemed another appeared. Next, the Army stalled its transfer and contract negotiations with a portion of the property set for a private sector employer Day and Zimmermann, the on-site ammunition manufacturers.

After numerous meetings with top Army generals and the senator (who led the congressional delegation effort in support of Parsons), more letters and phone calls, including personally contacting the then-Secretary of the Army John McHugh, Senator Roberts was proudly able to end the stalemate. It was his personal and steadfast involvement that ensured the project kept moving forward.

At a ribbon cutting ceremony in October 2012,



Senator Roberts and Great Plains Development Authority Champion Ann Charles at the ribbon cutting ceremony for the Kansas Army Ammunition Plant redevelopment site in Parsons.

Senator Roberts was proud to share the stage with Parsons community leader Ann Charles, Congresswoman Lynn Jenkins and Governor Sam Brownback in celebration of finalizing this transfer and marking the opening of the Great Plains Industrial Park, an industrial park that will provide growth and opportunities for Parsons, Labette County, and beyond.

Senate Marine Corps Caucus

In 2015, Senator Roberts established the Senate's very first Marine Corps Caucus. As a long standing member of the Senate Army Caucus, Senate Air Force Caucus, Senate National Guard and Reserves Caucus, Senate Special Operations Forces Caucus, it only seemed fitting that the Marine Corps also have a focus group.

The Senator established the caucus along with fellow Marines, Senator Blumenthal (D-CT) and Senator Sullivan (R-AK). To date, nine other senators have joined the caucus, including: Senator Inhofe (R-OK), Senator Cornyn (R-TX), Senator Boozman (R-AR), Senator Tillis (R-NC), Senator Warner (D-VA), Senator Manchin (D-WV), Senator Thune (R-SD), Senator Rounds (R-SD), and Senator Johnson (R-WI).

As part of its launch, the caucus met with then-Commandant General Joseph Dunford to discuss defining issues in an ever-changing and challenging national security arena. As Dunford assumed post as Chairman of the Joint Chiefs of Staff, the caucus began discussion with the new Commandant General Robert Neller.



Senator Roberts, the founder of the Senate Marine Corps Caucus, holds the first meeting of the Caucus with special guest then-Commandant and later Chairman of the Joint Chiefs, General Joseph Dunford.

Since the establishment of the Caucus, Senator Roberts has been viewed as not only the most senior Marine in Congress, but a go-to for industry and the service on how to best help our Marines.

Senator Roberts is the champion of the United States Marine Corps in Congress and will continue to lead the charge for the first to fight.

Air Force Tanker Bid and Growing the Mission at McConnell

Since 2001, Senator Roberts led the charge to replace the Air Force's aging, "Eisenhower-era" tanker fleet with an American-made plane.

The senator first called for a replacement to the KC-135 as a member of the Senate Armed Services Committee and as chairman of the Subcommittee on Emerging Threats and Capabilities. During an Armed Services Committee hearing, Senator Roberts held up a piece of corroded metal from a KC-135 to illustrate to his colleagues on the committee the unsafe, unsecure and unacceptable conditions our airmen were forced to deal with when operating the current, dated aircraft.

During the hearing, the senator noted that due to the significant maintenance requirements of the tanker, 40 percent of the fleet was grounded at any given time. Fortunately, the senator's passion for the issue helped convince the authorizers, and later the appropriators, that the Air Force must solicit bids for a replacement tanker.

In 2007, the Air Force released its preliminary Request for Proposal (RFP) to industry. At the time, Boeing appeared the only logical choice as they had produced the previous aircraft for the Air Force and continued a production line popular with many foreign nations, including Italy and India. Unfortunately, transparency concerns from a previous "scandal" due to sole source contracting forced the bid to be competed. French company Airbus entered the competition with a larger aircraft. In 2008, the Air Force announced the Airbus was the winner.

This announcement spurred Senator Roberts into even greater action. Though he had been involved in the competition from the beginning, requesting briefings from Department of Defense acquisition chiefs, meeting with Boeing's top executives and writing opinion pieces in

newspapers, the news that Boeing's superior bid had been rejected was not taken lightly. Senator Roberts quickly gathered the rest of the delegation, including then-Senator Brownback and then-Representative Tiahrt, to request a full and fair explanation from the Air Force.

The senator's advocacy ruffled feathers with Senator McCain (R-AZ), who held a strong bias against Boeing, and Senator Shelby whose hometown of Alabama was promised thousands of jobs from Airbus had they won the bid. But that did not matter. Senator Roberts was arguing on the merits and, more importantly, for what was best for our warfighters.

Senator Roberts strongly supported Boeing's initiative to protest the bid for several reasons, including Airbus' extreme size and their submission

was subpar to the U.S. built version submitted by Boeing. Fortunately, the Government Accountability Office (GAO) upheld the protest, and the Air Force was instructed to recompute the bid.

In 2011, Boeing was named the winner. William Lynn, Deputy Defense Secretary, stated Boeing was the clear winner when evaluating how well each of the

planes met war-fighting needs and what it would cost to operate over 40 years.

Senator Roberts stated, "I am relieved that a safer and better plane will finally replace the Eisenhower-era KC-135 tankers we use today. The men and women of our Air Force deserve the best tools available to carry out their critical, strategic and global mission. Their safety should be our number one priority. This decision marks the end of a difficult chapter in our nation's defense procurement process. Now it is time to get the new tanker in the hands of the warfighter."



In 2012, production on the new KC-46A began. The contract calls for 179 total tankers with the first delivery of 18 by 2017.

Because of Senator Roberts' steadfast support for military construction requests, airmen welfare improvements across the base and his advocacy from the Senate Armed Services Committee, McConnell's infrastructure surpassed that of many of the other Air Force bases in the nation. This positioned McConnell extremely well to be named the first Active Duty Base to receive the KC-46.

In 2014, McConnell's 22nd Air Refueling Wing

New Mission at McConnell

As Chairman of the Senate Intelligence Committee, Senator Roberts was instrumental in adding a unique and cherished capability to the Kansas Air National Guard's 184th Wing co-located at McConnell. In April of 2008, the 184th Intelligence Wing became the first Intelligence Wing in the Air National Guard. The 184th began executing a real-time intelligence mission, providing the eyes and ears on drone missions in Iraq, which has adapted in recent years as the mission in Iraq dwindled down and the campaign in Afghanistan has ramped up.

As the 184th Intelligence Wing continues to expertly execute its mission, the 177th Information Warfare Aggressor Squadron, a unit within the 184th, has been tasked with executing a Red Team mission in cybersecurity warfare for the entire Air

and 931st Reserve Air Refueling Group were named the first airmen to operate, maintain, and command the new tanker in the Air Force. In 2015, due to Senator Roberts' strong support and consistent advocacy, the Air Force announced the 931st would become an Air Refueling Wing, adding 400 reservists to McConnell.

Force. The 177th is one of only two Red Teams across the Air Force enterprise, and the only National Guard unit. The 177th has been at risk for cuts, as the Air Force has attempted to reprioritize missions for the active duty over the Guard.

Fortunately, Senator Roberts has led the way through legislative language requiring a full study for such change, including benefits and losses to the Air Force, and hosted several delegation meetings with General Frank Grass, Chief of the National Guard Bureau, and General Paul Selva, Chief of Staff of the Air Force. Today, the National Guard presence at McConnell remains uniquely positioned for our future missions.

“ The men and women of our Air Force deserve the best tools available to carry out their critical, strategic and global mission. Their safety should be our number one priority... ”

SENATOR PAT ROBERTS

Honoring Kansas' Native Son, World War II Hero and Senator Robert J. Dole

The nation would not have the World War II (WWII) Memorial without Bob Dole. In rescuing a stalled effort to honor the Greatest Generation with a fitting tribute to their sacrifice, Bob Dole became the spokesman for these heroes.

Bob Dole is one of them. He too sacrificed for the preservation of freedom. He went on to give his life to public service, and, when most would have faded from the causes and the headlines, he returned to serve again, this time to honor his

generation with a long overdue recognition of their courage before it was too late.

Disparate groups had their own ideas about what the WWII Memorial should look like and where it should be. The non-voting delegate for the District of Columbia in the U.S. House of Representatives said at the time, “Our generation will be blamed not only for obstructing the Mall, but for defacing it in the large chunks that would have to be carved out to make this space

approachable.” She opposed a war memorial on ground that has “come to stand for the freedom, democracy and equality themes associated with Washington and Lincoln.”

Senator Dole had to fight this view in the Congress and in courts. But there also were challenges in securing donations to build the memorial. Senator Dole went to California to visit a Hollywood executive that was thought to be writing a large check for the effort but who instead said he had other “priorities” for his money.

Bob said to him, “When I was 22, I had other priorities too. I went to war.”

Kansans knew he was the right man for the job. And he prevailed.

Many travel to this monument, and it gives them a reason to share their stories, some for the first time. Bob Dole put it best himself when he said, “Many bring with them intensely personal memories to lay on history’s altar. They come like pilgrims of old, accompanied by children or grandchildren. Some arrive on Honor Flights, cheered by people they have never met. Their step may be slowed, but their pride is as robust as their patriotism. To stand within these embracing arms

of stone is to kindle memories of distant battlefields, bottomless seas and endless skies. It invites both reflection and renewal.”

Bob Dole, purveyor of reflection and renewal.

The effort to recognize Senator Dole’s service to the nation began in October of 2009 when Senator Roberts and Senator Daniel Inouye (D-HI) wrote to U.S. Secretary of the Interior Ken Salazar requesting a permanent plaque on the World War II Memorial at the Pacific Theater entrance near the visitors center.

Secretary Salazar authorized the plaque and its placement at the memorial with a letter stating, “Senator Dole’s service and sacrifice for the nation, his historical commitment to members of the Armed Forces of the United States, and his role in raising funds for the construction of the World War II Memorial places him among our country’s greatest leaders and patriots.”

The plaque was unveiled at a ceremony on April 12, 2011, which included remarks from Senator Dole, Senator Roberts, Tom Brokaw, Vice President Joseph Biden and Senator Liddy Dole.



Secure our Agriculture and Food Act (P.L. 115-43)

As former Chairman of the Senate Intelligence Committee and Chairman of the Senate Agriculture Committee, Senator Roberts understands the unique threat our farmers and ranchers face against intentionally introduced pathogens that could be weaponized and aimed at destroying plant and animal populations.

In 2004, Homeland Security Directive 9 (HSPD 9) established a national policy to defend the agriculture and food systems against terrorist attacks, major disasters and other emergencies. It also directed the Department of Homeland Security to coordinate these efforts with all federal agencies. In response, the Department of Homeland Security (DHS) created the Office of Health Affairs, which has a Food, Agriculture, and Veterinary Defense (FAVD) Division focusing on securing our nation's food, agriculture, human and animal health.

Since then, several agencies with jurisdiction have established offices and policies surrounding this national security issue. Communication is key when developing and sustaining critical federal policies that encompass different agencies. In the recent years, we have seen duplicative work and holes in these actions as it spans multiple agencies of jurisdiction.

Although DHS had been tasked with this coordination through HSPD 9, the strain on the department due to ever increasing national security threats moved away from this priority. Senator Roberts felt it was critical to codify this directive into law, giving DHS the necessary authority to carry out its mission. Therefore, he introduced the Securing our Agriculture and Food Act.

This legislation requires the Secretary of Homeland Security (DHS), through the



Assistant Secretary for Health Affairs, to lead the department's efforts to secure our nation's food, agriculture and veterinary systems against terrorism and high-risk events. The bill also authorizes the secretary to collaborate with other agencies, to ensure food, agriculture, animal and human health sectors receive attention and are integrated into the DHS domestic preparedness policy initiatives.

Our nation faces global and complex national security challenges. Agro-terrorism and other high-risk events pose serious threats to our food, agriculture and livestock industries across the United States. It is imperative to have preparedness policies in place to quickly respond to events threatening U.S. agriculture or food production systems—ultimately protecting these key industries which impact every American on a daily basis.

For 16 years, Senator Roberts fought to ensure the National Bio and Agro-Defense Facility (NBAF) in Manhattan, Kansas, would be the leader in food research and biosecurity. Simultaneously, he led the effort to establish the Biosecurity Research Institute (BRI). Fighting for the enactment of P.L. 115-43 furthers the senator's goal of protecting our nation's critical food supply.



Health Care

Avian Flu

In January 2005, an outbreak of avian influenza spread through Vietnam, leading to the forced killing of nearly 1.2 million poultry. Up to 140 million birds are believed to have died or been killed because of the outbreak.

In September 2005, World Health Officials warned that an outbreak of avian influenza could kill 5 to 150 million people. To put the threat into perspective, in 2003, there were only three confirmed cases of avian flu in humans. By June of 2006, human cases of avian flu were discovered in 10 countries growing to more than 224 human cases and 127 deaths.

Given Senator Roberts' interest in biological threats, whether caused intentionally or naturally occurred, he went to work immediately on improving the nation's response to a flu pandemic or similar biological threat.

Senator Roberts and Senator Hillary Clinton (D-NY) held a colloquy on the Senate floor about the need to address a critical vaccine shortage and

to improve an emergency vaccination program in America. They followed up the discussion by introducing legislation, the Influenza Vaccine Security Act (S. 1828).

In December 2006, the Senate unanimously approved a bill called the Pandemic and All-Hazards Preparedness Act (S. 3678), which reauthorized the Public Health Security and Bioterrorism Preparedness and Response Act of 2002 and expanded the Project BioShield Act of 2004. It eventually became law and contained provisions similar to those authored as part of the Clinton-Roberts bill.

The provisions authored by Roberts, now law, require the Secretary of HHS to link existing state verification systems for medical volunteers to maintain a single national network for the purpose of advance registration of these health professionals. This national network will verify the credentials, licenses and certifications of medical volunteers to ensure rapid response to public health emergencies.

The bill also gives the Secretary of HHS the authority to track the distribution of federally-purchased pandemic flu vaccines in order to determine where supplies of these vaccines are located. To address seasonal flu delivery concerns, the bill requires the Secretary to enhance communication between state and local public health officials, vaccine manufacturers, distributors and wholesalers regarding the effective distribution of the seasonal flu vaccine. In addition, this enhanced communication must include estimates of high priority populations in state and local jurisdictions in order to inform federal, state and local decision makers during vaccine shortages and supply disruptions.

The bill creates an FDA rapid-action team to work with manufacturers who request assistance to identify and resolve problems by providing continuous, on-site assistance to avert a significant shortage of vaccines or countermeasures.



Drug Compounding

In 2002, in response to fraudulent activity by a Kansas City, Missouri, pharmacist who was diluting cancer drugs and selling them as if they were fully potent, Senator Roberts, along with Senator Kit Bond (R-MO), led an effort to look into the issue of pharmacy compounding.

Courtney pleaded guilty in February 2002 to diluting 158 chemotherapy doses for 34 patients from March 2001 through June 2001. He also admitted that greed drove him to dilute drugs since 1992, affecting as many as 4,200 patients, 400 doctors and 98,000 prescriptions.

Legitimate pharmacy compounding occurs when a patient has a special medical need that cannot be met by an FDA-approved drug. Their physician writes a specific prescription for the patient and then the pharmacist makes the medication for the individual patient. Senator Roberts has long supported traditional pharmacy compounding. Unfortunately, there have been multiple examples of recent injuries and deaths from unsafe compounded drugs across the country.

From 2002-2003, he and Senator Bond introduced an amendment to the Medicare Modernization Act to set up a committee on drug compounding within the Food and Drug Administration and held a hearing in the Senate HELP Committee where the Government Accountability Office and others testified regarding the industry of compounding pharmacy.

From 2006-2007, Roberts, along with Senators

Kennedy, Burr, Enzi and Reed, circulated a discussion draft with the intent to get stakeholder feedback on addressing compounding in the Prescription Drug User Fee Act (PDUFA IV). Intensive lobbying efforts by industry stakeholders forced leadership to stall the draft, and it did not move forward. Despite this setback, Roberts continued to work with colleagues to engage the FDA to ensure that they were using their existing enforcement authorities to address large scale pharmacy compounding.

In September 2012, the FDA, in collaboration with the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC), began investigating a meningitis outbreak from tainted product compounded at New England Compounding Centers (NECC) in Framingham, Massachusetts. This reinforced the need for Congress to act and clarify who is accountable for ensuring compounded drugs are safe for the patients who receive them.

As a result, then-HELP Committee Chairman Harkin, Ranking Member Alexander, Senators Franken and Roberts circulated a draft legislative proposal in 2013 which addressed accountability and quality loopholes that contributed to the meningitis crisis from tainted product compounded at NECC.

In May 2013, the HELP Committee approved S. 959, the Pharmaceutical Quality and Accountability Act. This legislation clarifies that compounding manufacturers, those compounding sterile products without a prescription and



voluntarily register as outsourcing facilities and therefore be subject to oversight by the FDA in much the same way as traditional manufacturers. The legislation struck unconstitutional provisions of the existing law, resolving the patchwork of current federal regulation and applying a uniform standard nationwide. The legislation also directs the FDA to make a list of FDA-regulated outsourcing facilities publicly available, requires detailed labeling on compounded drugs and prohibits false or

shipping them across state lines, will have to register and be inspected by the FDA, while traditional pharmacy practices would continue to be regulated by the states.

misleading advertising, all in an effort to give providers and patients better information on these products.

After numerous iterations and negotiations with the House, a final bill was passed by Congress and signed into law in November 2013, the Drug Quality and Security Act (P.L. 113-54). Under the law, compounders who wish to practice outside the scope of traditional pharmacy can

The final bill that was signed into law reflects a bipartisan, bicameral effort to address these drug safety and security issues. This law protects traditional pharmacies, while giving patients more confidence in the quality and safety of their compounded drugs.

University of Kansas—National Cancer Institute (NCI) Designation

When Senator Pat Roberts was first elected to the Senate in 1996, he created a blue ribbon committee of Kansas leaders in government, academia and the private sector to advise him on the state's science and technology needs. The goal was to make Kansas more competitive in a global marketplace increasingly reliant on research and technology and to provide economic opportunity to stop out-migration of our best and brightest.

The Roberts Advisory Committee set out to implement policies and secure federal investments to further the research goals of Kansas State University in plant and animal science, Wichita State University in composite and aviation research and the University of Kansas in life science research.

Senator Roberts personally took this goal to the Kansas legislature in 2001 and 2002—encouraging his colleagues in the state legislature to help promote state investment in research infrastructure.

In response, the legislature voted in favor of bonding authority—and the public-private partners constructed and invested in buildings at the KU Cancer Center. About this same time, Stowers Biomedical Research Institute came into existence, which provided a key private source of research excellence.

In 2004, Senator Roberts worked with KU's then-Chancellor Bob Hemenway to invite then-NIH Director Elias Zerhouni to KU for a

“ Senator Roberts has worked diligently to help in the development of scientific research programs at KU and Kansas State University by encouraging federal grants for both schools. While he would be the first to point out that the capacity to conduct worthwhile research programs must exist before grants are made, it is also important to have hard-working help in Washington from the Kansas congressional delegation. Sen. Roberts has demonstrated his strong personal commitment to that task and should be recognized for his effective advocacy.”

EMERSON LYNN, JR. – THE IOLA REGISTER (OCT. 1, 2003)

tour and discussion about KU Medical Center’s research facilities. Dr. Zerhouni recognized that there was great promise in research conducted at Kansas universities.

Chancellor Hemenway and Roberts worked in concert to design congressionally-directed programs to supplement KU’s internal NIH cancer research successes. Furthermore, this coordinated effort with the university also provided them with the flexibility to recruit new cancer research faculty who brought considerable expertise and National Cancer Institute (NCI) cancer research programs to KU.

In 2006, with the critical mission of the National

Cancer Institute in mind, from Roberts’ post on the Senate HELP Committee, he fought to reauthorize funding for NIH, which oversees the NCI. This reform bill reaffirmed the various centers of NIH including the Cancer Institutes and reauthorized their funding. This was a continuation of Congressional efforts from 1999, when Congress was successful at doubling NIH funding over five years.

In 2009, Senator Roberts and his then-colleague Senator Sam Brownback secured \$5.5 million in federal investments for KU to purchase equipment needed to further its cancer research.

In September 2011, KU submitted its final application to the National Cancer Institute. Roberts led a letter of support to NCI in May 2012 that was signed by the entire Kansas delegation, along with several colleagues from Missouri, who also saw the benefit to the Kansas City region. In July 2012, KU was designated as a NCI cancer center.

In September 2016, KU submitted its application seeking consideration for elevation to Comprehensive Cancer Center status, along with renewal of its NCI designation and the addition of Children’s Mercy as a consortium partner. In February 2017,



In 2004, Senator Roberts tours former Director of the National Institutes of Health Dr. Elias Zerhouni through the University of Kansas Medical Center in Kansas City, Kan., KU Med Center's Hoglund Brain Imaging Center and the new Biomedical Research Center, under construction.

Senator Roberts again led a letter of support to NCI for KUCC's application which was signed by the entire Kansas delegation, along with several Missouri members. In July, NCI announced the five year renewal of KU's cancer designation and approval of Children's Mercy as a cancer center consortium partner.

According to KU, since 2006, the NCI

designation pursuit has created 2,088 jobs and had a regional economic impact of \$557 million through 2013. This effort reaffirms Senator Roberts' belief that public, private, and academic partnerships are critical to developing our state's economy over the long term. As the university continues its work to become designated as an NCI designated Comprehensive Cancer Center, these numbers are expected to continue to grow.

Rural Health Advocate

Throughout his Senate career, Senator Roberts has been a champion of rural health care. He has long believed that just because folks live in a rural area does not mean they should be forced to sacrifice access to high quality health care. From hospitals, doctors and nurses, to ambulance service, home health and hospice providers, Senator Roberts has fought to recruit and retain vital services in our rural areas.

One of the first health bills Senator Roberts helped lead when he joined the Senate was the Medicare Payment Equity Act, which ends the long-standing inequity that denies Medicare beneficiaries in rural counties the same services and benefits their urban peers receive. This provision was signed into law months later as part of the Balanced Budget Act.

In 2000, Roberts introduced the Rural Health Care in the 21st Century Act, which makes improvements to disproportionate share hospitals and critical access hospital programs, provides for greater acquisition of advanced medical technology for our rural communities, and providers for

greater Medicare bad debt reimbursement.

In 2001, the senator was named to the Senate Health, Education, Labor and Pensions Committee, giving him a more direct opportunity to work on many rural health and provider issues under the committee's jurisdiction. In 2007, he joined the Senate Finance Committee, expanding his health care jurisdiction to Medicare, Medicaid, the Children's Health Insurance Program (CHIP) and the many tax provisions affecting health coverage.

In 2007, the senator was appointed by Republican leadership to serve as the Co-Chair of the Rural Health Caucus. From this position, he has championed the Rural Hospital and Provider Equity Act for several Congresses. This rural health package makes changes to Medicare regulations for rural hospitals and providers recognizing the difficulty in achieving the same economies of scale as large urban facilities. These changes include changes to lab, ambulance, home health care, hospice and rural clinic Medicare reimbursements.

Ambulance Champion

Senator Roberts has long believed that prompt ambulance service and well-trained EMS personnel can mean the difference between life and death, especially in rural areas where residents often live miles away from the nearest medical facility.

In 2001, he and Senator Kent Conrad (D-ND) introduced the Sustaining Access to Vital Emergency Medical Services Act. This legislation would have provided federal grants to EMS providers in

rural areas. The grant funds can be used to recruit volunteers, train EMS personnel, acquire new ambulances and other equipment and educate the public on first aid techniques such as CPR. The legislation also clarifies the "prudent layperson" standard to ensure that ambulance services are appropriately reimbursed, no matter what the final diagnosis.

Since 2009, Roberts, along with Senator Charles Schumer (D-NY), have worked within the

Finance Committee to provide adequate reimbursement for all ambulance providers under Medicare. In 2009, they introduced the Medicare Ambulance Access Preservation Act and have introduced similar legislation each Congress to

increase ground ambulance reimbursements for urban, rural and super rural areas. They have led the charge for the inclusion of similar “Medicare extenders” to patch these payment rates from year to year.

Home Health Care & Hospice Champion

Senator Roberts has long supported home care because it allows seniors the freedom and independence to stay at home and gives them the comfort of knowing someone is available to assist with their health care needs. More importantly, home care is cost effective care that keeps a senior out of a nursing home or hospital.

From his roles on the Finance Committee and the Senate Rural Health Care Caucus, Senator Roberts has been a constant defender of home health and hospice against regulatory burdens and administrative payment cuts.

Specifically, he has fought to improve implementation of the competitive bidding program for durable medical equipment which ensures suppliers remain viable and can continue to provide access to this equipment for beneficiaries receiving care at home. After enactment of the Patient Protection and Affordable Care Act, Senator Roberts worked tirelessly to reduce the harm of home health care rebasing cuts and ensured that new face-to-face requirements for providing home care services are implemented in a way that does not disproportionately impact our rural providers.

In 2008, Senator Roberts worked with several colleagues on the Finance Committee to introduce the Hospice Protection Act, which would have placed a one year moratorium on a final rule issued by the Centers for Medicare and Medicaid Services to reduce hospice reimbursement rates to hospice providers.

In 2011, Senator Roberts, along with Senator Ron Wyden (D-OR), introduced the Hospice Evaluation and Legitimate Payment (HELP) Act. This legislation requires that all changes to Medicare reimbursement structure be vetted through a two-year pilot program so that potential negative effects can be discovered and

mitigated before affecting patients.

The bill amends the requirements that all hospice patients meet face-to-face with a doctor before admission to receiving hospice care, by allowing nurse practitioners and physician assistants and others to conduct the required face-to-face interview. The bill also requires hospice facilities to seek Medicare accreditation every three years—instead of the current eight years—in order to ensure quality services. This provision was included in the IMPACT Act which was signed into law in 2014.

“ It is gratifying for home health and hospice providers to know that someone with your energy, vision and commitment is in Congress taking the lead to ensure that home health and hospice beneficiaries have access to appropriate levels of care and providers are being properly reimbursed for their services. ”

**VAL HALAMANDARIS
(PRESIDENT, HOMECARE & HOSPICE)
4/9/08**

In addition, the senator led an effort in 2014 with Senator Jay Rockefeller (D-WV) to ensure that prior authorization policies for hospice patients receiving medications under Medicare Part D do not jeopardize hospice patients’ timely access to needed medication. The administration responded by making changes to this policy.

Trauma Care

With the nation's continued focus on enhancing disaster preparedness, it is critical that the federal government increase its commitment to strengthening trauma care system planning and development. Senator Roberts believes trauma systems are a crucial component of our public health preparedness. Trauma care is especially critical in rural areas where the death rate from unintentional injury is more than 50 percent higher than in urban areas. Saving the life of any trauma victim requires constant attention to maintaining and coordinating organized systems of trauma care in every community in every state.

Since 1990, the Trauma Care Systems Planning and Development Act has provided funding to help states and territories develop and implement statewide trauma care systems. In 2007, Senator Roberts, along with Senator Jack Reed (D-RI), led the effort to develop and strengthen state-wide trauma care systems through reauthorization of the Trauma Care Systems Planning and Development Act. Senator Roberts shepherded this legislation through the HELP Committee, and it was signed into law.



Blocking Rationing in Health Care

In April of 2010, Donald Berwick was nominated by President Obama to be the Administrator of the Centers for Medicare and Medicaid Services (CMS).

Serving on both the Finance Committee and the HELP Committee, Senator Roberts was uniquely positioned to lead the opposition to this controversial nomination.

Berwick had a great deal of published material on the American health care system. As Senator Roberts examined Berwick's writings and after meeting with him, he concluded that Dr. Berwick was a huge fan of the British National Healthcare System and wanted a similar system for Medicare that relies on rationing health care to hold down costs.

The following are a few of Berwick's controversial statements: "I am a romantic about the NHS; I love it," and "the NHS is not just a national treasure, it is a global treasure." He also said, "Most people who have serious pain do not need advanced methods; they just need the morphine and counseling that have been around for centuries."

Then-Senate Majority Leader Harry Reid and Finance Committee Chair Max Baucus would not hold hearings on the Berwick nomination due to the degree of conservative outrage.

This forced President Obama to issue a recess appointment in July 2010.

Despite the recess appointment, Senator Roberts and the rest of the Finance Committee Republicans called for hearings.

Later in July, Senator Roberts offered an amendment providing for a Sense of the Senate resolution calling Dr. Donald Berwick's nomination to head CMS an "abuse of power" and requested a public hearing on the nomination despite his recess appointment to the position.

Berwick could only serve until the summer of 2011

without Senate approval. On January 26, 2011, the president re-nominated Berwick. On March 4, 2011, 42 senators wrote the White House and asked for the nomination to be withdrawn.

With the knowledge that opposition wasn't going away, Berwick resigned his position at CMS on December 2, 2011.

State Fair Cancer Prevention

Following the death of Congressman Keith Sebelius (R-KS) in 1982 of prostate cancer, and building upon Senator Bob Dole's work to encourage prostate cancer screening at the State Fair, Senator Roberts and his wife Franki stepped in, and since 1993 have served as honorary sponsors of the Hutchinson Clinic/Prevent Cancer Foundation Health Awareness and Screening Booth.

The booth is operated by the Hutchinson Clinic, partnering with the Prevent Cancer Foundation. Originally, the booth would screen adult male fair attendees for prostate cancer with a simple blood test. The test results were analyzed and then given to the attendee at a later date with the support of the staff at the Hutchinson Clinic.

While visiting the fair one year with Senator Roberts, Mel Thompson, Senator Roberts' longtime staffer and friend, took advantage of the opportunity to be screened for prostate cancer at the booth. Mel was especially cautious having also worked for Congressman Sebelius. The test at the

fair discovered Mel did indeed have prostate cancer. The early detection and a good treatment plan got Mel back to work, and he remains in remission and cancer free today. He owes his well-being, in part, to the cancer booth.

In the last few years, prostate screening guidelines have changed. The booth now provides other information about cancer prevention and general wellness. Senator Roberts and Mrs. Roberts visit the booth at fair time. Senator Roberts records a public service announcement and writes a letter to the editor sent statewide encouraging people to visit the booth.

In 2015, Mrs. Roberts was honored for her work to help prevent cancer by the Prevent Cancer Foundation's Congressional Families Cancer Prevention Program. She was honored along with Pulitzer Prize winning author Dr. Siddhartha Mukherjee (he wrote "The Emperor of All Maladies: A Biography of Cancer") and Food Network star Sandra Lee.



Left, Franki Roberts and Ashleigh Black, one of the Roberts' daughters, at the Prevent Cancer Foundation Congressional Families Gala honoring Franki Roberts. Right, Senator Roberts at the Prevent Cancer/Hutchinson Clinic Wellness booth at the Kansas State Fair.





Intelligence

Senate Intelligence Committee Leadership and Intelligence Community Reform Efforts

As Chairman of the Senate Select Committee on Intelligence (SSCI) from 2003-2006, Senator Roberts became known as a national leader on intelligence matters in the years following the 9/11 attacks and the war in Iraq. He presided over the committee as it investigated one of the most critical intelligence failures in our nation's history.

Senator Roberts appeared on national television or was quoted in national newspapers virtually daily. He addressed think tanks, universities and military institutions. In 2004 alone, he appeared on 21 Sunday morning public policy shows like "Meet the Press" and "Face the Nation" because of his leadership, knowledge and expertise.

Roberts' Work Prior to September 11th, 2001

Working on intelligence matters has been a major part of Senator Roberts' career in the Senate. The senator had been a member of the SSCI since he moved to the Senate in 1997, he also served on the Senate Armed Services Committee from 1997-2006.

Under that committee, he chaired the "Emerging Threats and Capabilities Subcommittee," which began looking at threats to the homeland like the USS Cole bombing and the attacks on the Kenyan and Tanzanian embassies. Roberts warned that these attacks could foreshadow something

much more sinister on our own shores. In his subcommittee hearings in 1999 and 2000, he often asked military and intelligence leaders, “What keeps you up at night?” In every case, a looming attack on our shores was their answer.

In fact, after September 11, 2001, columnist

David Broder wrote in The Washington Post, “In words that now appear to be eerily prescient, Roberts warned [in 1999] that there was a ‘real opportunity for a handful of zealots to wreak havoc on a scale that hitherto only armies could attain.’”

Roberts as Intelligence Committee Chair

By the time Senator Roberts took over the reigns as chairman of the SSCI in early 2003, the September 11th attacks had awakened the nation to the intelligence failures that missed the attacks at home and to further intelligence failures that led the nation to war against Saddam Hussein, believing he had weapons of mass destruction (WMD).

It was up to the senator and his committee to find answers. First, Senator Roberts needed to understand how and why the failures occurred. Next, he had to propose changes to correct the deficiencies. Senator Roberts called for a two-step process.

Step 1 — Investigation into WMD and the Iraq War

When the world learned that Saddam Hussein’s regime did not have WMD, which had been the basis upon which President George W. Bush and his administration made the case for war, Senator Roberts’ committee immediately started an investigation into the resounding intelligence failures.

Senator Roberts led the first phase of the investigation in a highly-charged political atmosphere where Republicans and Democrats were bitterly split along party lines. Roberts repeatedly said that the facts would take them wherever the investigation needed to go and it would not yield to party politics.

Committee staff reviewed 45,000 documents from the Intelligence Community and interviewed more than 200 individuals as a part of its work.

In July 2004, the Roberts-led SSCI defied politics and passed a report that was unanimously supported by all members of the committee. The “Report on Prewar Intelligence and Iraq” outlined, in part, that:

- Most of the key judgements in the October 2002 National Intelligence Estimate (NIE) on Iraq’s WMD programs were either overstated or were not supported by the raw intelligence reporting;
- The Intelligence Community did not accurately explain the uncertainties behind the judgments in the October 2002 NIE to policymakers, both in the Executive Branch and on Capitol Hill;
- The Intelligence Community was suffering from collective “groupthink,” which led analysts, collectors and managers to presume that Iraq had active and growing WMD programs;
- In a few significant instances, the analysis in the NIE suffered from a layering effect whereby assessments were built based on previous judgements without carrying forward the uncertainties of those judgements;
- There was a failure of the Intelligence Community managers to adequately encourage analysts to challenge their assumptions, fully consider alternative arguments, accurately characterize intelligence reporting and counsel analysts who had lost their objectivity;
- There were significant shortcomings in almost every aspect of the Intelligence Community’s human intelligence collection efforts against the Iraqi WMD target;

“ Roberts warned [in 1999] that there was a ‘real opportunity for a handful of zealots to wreak havoc on a scale that hitherto only armies could attain.’ ”

DAVID BRODER,
WASHINGTON POST



Chairman Roberts and Ranking Member Jay Rockefeller unveiling the Senate Intelligence Committee's report on pre-war intelligence on Iraq.

- Most alarmingly, after 1998, the CIA had no human intelligence sources inside Iraq who were collecting information against the WMD target. In addition to this lack of good source reporting, the CIA excessively compartmentalized its sensitive human intelligence reporting. Most, if not all, of these problems stemmed from a broken corporate culture and poor management, and cannot be solved by simply adding funding and personnel;
- The CIA abused its unique position in the Intelligence Community to the detriment of this nation's pre-war analysis concerning Iraq's WMD programs; and
- The committee found no evidence that the Intelligence Community's mischaracterization or exaggeration of the intelligence on Iraq's weapons of mass destruction capabilities was the result of political pressure.

At the national press conference to release the SSCI report, Roberts said, "The debate over many aspects of the U.S. liberation of Iraq will likely continue for decades, but one fact is now clear: before the war, the Intelligence Committee told the president, the Congress, and the public that Saddam had stockpiles of chemical and biological weapons and, if left unchecked, would probably have a nuclear weapon during this decade. Today we know these assessments were wrong."

The "Report on Prewar Intelligence in Iraq" definitively answered probing questions that the world demanded. Moreover, the report served as

the basis for much of the Robb-Silberman WMD Commission's work on Iraq. The Commission called the report careful, well-researched, and particularly valuable to their work.

Of the report, the Abilene Reflector Chronicle wrote on July 10, 2004, "Whenever people complain about what Congress does or does not do, we can be proud of our own U.S. Senator Pat Roberts, who guided the Senate Intelligence Committee through a difficult process of evaluating our nation's intelligence-gathering work. Even with the Republican president at the helm, Roberts' leadership showed that through a bipartisan process, much good can be accomplished, even in the rough and tumble world of Washington, D.C."

And The Wichita Eagle editorial board said, "Mr. Roberts and his colleagues have performed a vital national service in uncovering key flaws in our intelligence community, which serves as America's first line of defense in the war on terror" (7/11/04).

Step 2 — Reform Bill

Following the prewar report, Senator Roberts immediately moved to oversee the sweeping overhaul of our nation's Intelligence Community through the National Security Intelligence Reform Act in 2004.

The last overhaul legislation of this magnitude was the National Security Act of 1947. Since its passage, 24 attempts were made to pass comprehensive intelligence reform legislation. None were successful until Senator Roberts was able to get the difficult, necessary reforms passed in Congress.

The terrorist attacks of 9/11 awoke the nation, and the Intelligence Committee, to the fact that America's Intelligence Community was "stovepiping" critical, actionable intelligence — meaning it was not sharing critical information that might have allowed more intelligence officials to better connect the dots and gather reliable intelligence.

As The New York Times wrote on August 24, 2004, "Senator Pat Roberts, chairman of the Senate Intelligence Committee, has done the country a real service by producing a

Republican-sponsored proposal to reform the intelligence community that goes well beyond the other ideas offered so far.”

And the Salina Journal wrote on August 29, 2004, “People should listen when Sen. Pat Roberts talks about intelligence matters...we hope everyone remembers Roberts’ 1999 prediction about terrorist attacks. His prescience earns him credibility and respect when it comes to U.S. intelligence matters, and his plan should be treated the same way.”



Senator Roberts conducts a pen and pad briefing for national press on his proposed legislation to realign intelligence agency functions to improve Intelligence gathering and analysis post 9/11.

Of greatest significance, the senator was able to:

- Create a Director of National Intelligence, or DNI, who is separate from the Director of the CIA, with budget authorities over our Intelligence Community agencies;
- Establish authorities to conduct quality control checks of the Community’s analytic products;
- Create a National Counterterrorism Center to serve as the nation’s true clearinghouse for terrorist related intelligence.

The senator’s underlying concern has always been increased information sharing to prevent further attack.

Other Intel Efforts:

In 2005, the senator was instrumental in expanding the FBI’s ability to collect credible evidence in a timely manner. He also supported the data collection program run by the National Security Agency (NSA) under an amendment to the Foreign Intelligence Surveillance Act (FISA) of 1978.

As part of his oversight duties the senator traveled to the NSA and witnessed firsthand the operations, including legal oversight. Further, following a leak in The New York Times about the program, Senator Roberts led the fight to expand the highly classified briefings on the program to all members of the Senate and House Intelligence

Committees — not just the highly publicized “Gang of 8” made of House/Senate/Intel leaders — so there could be even greater congressional oversight. The program operated until 2015 and provided invaluable data on foreign nationals plotting or planning another attack on U.S. soil.

His tenure on the committee also included oversight of the Abu Gahraib abuse scandal, the revelation of the CIA’s rendition program of high value detainees, the Patriot Act and many other issues critical to intelligence analysis and collection.

Additionally, under Chairman Roberts, the committee accomplished the following:

- Conducted continuous audits, examinations, and other oversight of the Intelligence Community’s highly classified budget and acquisition programs.
- Passed intelligence authorization bills for 2004, 2005, 2006, and 2007.
- Conducted vigorous oversight of the Intelligence Community’s operations in the Global War on Radical Islamic Terrorists.
- Completed a comprehensive audit of the use of Foreign Intelligence Surveillance Act authorities to collect information against terrorists and spies here in the U.S. Most of the committee’s recommendations were enacted into law or implemented by the Department of Justice and the FBI.

- Conducted a review of allegations that a Department of Defense intelligence program named “Able Danger” had identified at least one of the 9/11 hijackers prior to the attacks.
- Conducted hearings on a broad range of issues facing the Intelligence Community, including information sharing and improvement of human intelligence collection.

In 2007, CIA Director Michael V. Hayden presented the Agency Seal Medal to Senator Roberts in recognition of his 10 years of service as a member and Chairman of the Senate Select Committee on Intelligence. The medal is awarded to people outside the Agency who have made significant contributions to the work of CIA.

“Senator Pat Roberts has been a fair, thorough and thoughtful overseer of CIA and our vital mission,” General Hayden said. “With the practicality of a Midwesterner and the dedication of a Marine, he helped CIA find ways to better protect the American people – through strong management, steady funding, improved information sharing, advanced capabilities, greater integration and unity of purpose.”

General Hayden noted that Senator Roberts led the Intelligence Committee during a time of transition for the entire Intelligence Community. In the midst of tremendous change, Senator

Roberts worked to ensure that CIA had the tools and resources it needed to collect, analyze and disseminate intelligence our nation can get no other way, he said.

Director Hayden said that Senator Roberts would occasionally take CIA to task for its shortcomings. “That’s the role of oversight, after all,” General Hayden said. “But his focus always was how to improve our performance, so that we can meet both today’s threats and tomorrow’s challenges.”



CIA Director Michael V. Hayden presents the Agency Seal Medal to Senator Roberts in recognition of his 10 years of service as a member and chairman of the Senate Select Committee on Intelligence.

At the conclusion of Roberts’ time as chair, the Lawrence Journal-World editorial board wrote, “Washington media representatives have been high in their praise of Roberts for the manner in which he has handled the chairmanship and his effort to keep partisan politics to a minimum in the committee’s deliberations and

investigations. It’s been a difficult task...Roberts enjoys a reputation many senators wish they merited: that is he is honest, straight-shooting, unpretentious, a patriot and someone who epitomizes the saying ‘what you see is what you get’” (11/28/06).

Senator Roberts’ oversight of the Intelligence Community during a time of war was comprehensive, tough and straightforward. His contributions to national security are far reaching and may never be fully known.

Searching for Captain Scott Speicher

On January 17, 1991, in the first hours of Operation Desert Storm over Iraq, U.S. Navy Lt. Commander Scott Speicher was piloting an F/1-18 Hornet fighter when he was shot down.

At a press conference, then-Secretary of Defense Dick Cheney and then-Chairman of the Joint Chiefs Colin Powell confirmed to the world that the U.S. had suffered its first casualty of war and prematurely announced that an American pilot was Killed in Action (KIA).

Other pilots on the mission that night reported seeing a fireball in the sky and indicated there was no way they thought he could survive an ejection from his craft. There was no search for his remains or the downed jet.

As a member of the Intelligence Committee, Senator Roberts was looking into a different POW/MIA (Prisoner of War/Missing in Action) case involving a Kansan missing from the Vietnam War. As he and his staff began to

investigate that case, the fate of Scott Speicher kept being mentioned as a cause worthy of Senator Roberts' attention.

In July 1999, Senator Roberts requested a formal Senate Select Committee on Intelligence inquiry. Senator Roberts maintained that Pentagon officials did not adequately investigate the incident and improperly listed the pilot as Killed In Action. Even when intelligence data began to surface, little was done to set the record straight. His request was not granted.

In May 2000, Senator Roberts introduced legislation, later passed into law as part of the Fiscal Year 2001 Intelligence Authorization Bill, forcing the Pentagon and intelligence agencies to better handle cases of military personnel MIA. It required a community-wide intelligence assessment to be made regarding those MIA. It was an early and important effort to demonstrate the disjointed and stove-piped intelligence collection across the Intelligence Community that stifled the flow of critical information.

In June 2000, Senator Roberts requested that the Select Committee on Intelligence require the Department of Defense and the Central Intelligence Agency to conduct a full assessment of Captain Speicher's fate. In October 2000, Senator Roberts requested a change from Speicher's status of Killed In Action to MIA, which was granted in January of 2001.

Then in March 2001, Roberts requested the Senate Intelligence Committee conduct a formal investigation into Scott Speicher's case, which found that "Speicher probably survived the loss of his aircraft, and if he survived, he was most certainly captured by the Iraqis."

In February 2002, Senator Roberts wrote Secretary of Defense Donald Rumsfeld requesting the change in status from MIA to Prisoner Of War. In October 2002, the Navy agreed to Senator Roberts' request to list missing Captain Speicher

as Missing/Captured. This was the first time in history the Department of Defense had made such a change.

As the United States began to make the case for war with Iraq, President George W. Bush mentioned Speicher in a speech to the United Nations General Assembly as part of his rationale. Senator Roberts pressed for intelligence collection and analysis regarding Speicher as the siege on Baghdad began in March of 2003.

As the war went on, no credible intelligence was found to prove Speicher had survived the crash of his F-18 or was captured by the Iraqis.



U.S. Navy Lt. Commander Scott Speicher

In January 2009, the U.S. Navy held a review board to consider officially closing the case. Senator Roberts and the Speicher family fought this action and against any change in status. The Navy ultimately decided to allow his Missing/Captured status to remain.

Finally, in August of 2009, 18 years after his plane was reported shot down in the remote desert of Iraq, now Captain Scott Speicher's (was promoted twice while Missing/Captured) remains were found by the U.S.

Marines. According to local civilians, Speicher was buried by Bedouins after his plane was shot down. The evidence proved that Speicher did not survive the crash.

Later in August, the remains of Captain Speicher arrived in Florida. Captain Speicher was finally home.

Throughout the search for Speicher, Senator Roberts always said his greatest wish was to see him standing on a tarmac back on American soil, greeting his family. It was not to be, but Captain Speicher's death was not in vain, his case changed the way missing personnel are handled within the Department of Defense and the Intelligence Community. Greater resources, scrutiny and accountability of these cases will ensure that America truly leaves no man behind.

Pat Roberts Intelligence Scholarship Program

In 2004, as Chairman of the Senate Select Committee on Intelligence, Senator Roberts established the Pat Roberts Intelligence Scholarship Program (PRISP). It began as a pilot program to train workers in the Intelligence Community in specialized areas where it was deficient, such as language skills, regional studies and new technology. A few short years later, PRISP was deemed so successful it became part of a permanent program under the Director of National Intelligence (DNI).

Today, PRISP continues to assist the federal government in attracting the best and brightest to government service through scholarships that cover the cost of tuition and board during graduate school. The total number of PRISP participants remains classified, as does the total budget for the program and the amount of each scholarship. However, the DNI indicates they have added to the budget every year. The original pilot program aimed to assist 150 students.

PRISP also complements the hiring requirements of the Directorate of Intelligence (DI). Eligible candidates are student interns who have served an internship in a DI office or center, have expressed interest in converting to full-time staff, and have management's concurrence for the conversion. PRISP will have a significant impact on

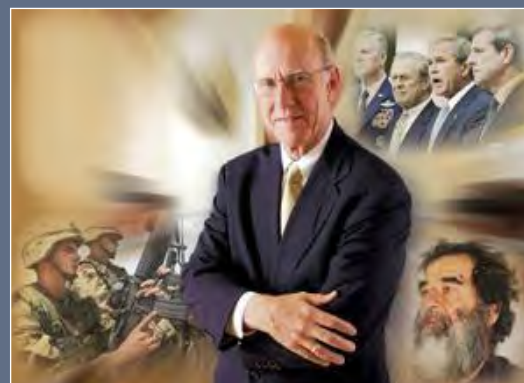
improving the analytic depth and quality of the Intelligence Community through the hiring of eligible candidates with needed specialties such as:

- Area expertise in China, Middle East, South Asia, Korea, Southeast Asia, Central Asia, Russia, the Caucasus, Africa and Latin America;
- Coursework in counterterrorism, Islamic Studies, physical sciences (physics, biology, chemistry, microbiology), engineering (aero-space, chemical, bio-medical, electrical, mechanical, nuclear, structural), applied mathematics, computer engineering, computer science, cyber security, political science and economics;
- Expertise or academic training in national security, international affairs, political science, analytic methodology, financial security, international banking, international finance or international organizations;
- Language training or proficiency desirable (and adds a significant competitive edge), particularly in Chinese, Arabic, Persian, Urdu, Pashto, Dari, Turkish, Korean, or a Central Asian or Caucasian language such as Georgian, Turkmen, Tajik or Uzbek.

The PRISP is one of Senator Roberts' lasting contributions to the continued security of our nation.

"The Pat Roberts Intelligence Scholarship Program (PRISP) is a significant success in assisting the National Geospatial-Intelligence Agency's (NGA) efforts to recruit and retain high-quality employees for critical skill areas. PRISP's greatest benefit is that it provides NGA with a more competitive position from which to recruit and compensate people with hard-to-find skills."

**JAMES R. CLAPPER, JR. LT. GEN. USAF (RET.) THEN
DIRECTOR OF NGA AND DIRECTOR OF NATIONAL
INTELLIGENCE 2010-PRESENT, FEBRUARY 2005**



Graphic created by The Wichita Eagle accompanying a 2004 story entitled, "Senator Roberts: In the Eye of the Storm."



Economic Growth

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The National Bio and Agro-Defense Facility (NBAF) and the Biosecurity Research Institute (BRI) at Pat Roberts Hall

The building of the National Bio and Agro-Defense Facility (NBAF) in Manhattan, Kansas, was a 16-year effort that started with a vision by Senator Roberts to make Kansas a leader in food research and biosecurity.

From 1999 to the 2015 groundbreaking of NBAF on the Kansas State University campus, the senator never let obstacles and complications

deter the effort. Over the 16 years, the senator campaigned to win over numerous members of Congress, three U.S. presidents, multiple cabinet secretaries, other senior administration offices and the Intelligence Community. In each case, Roberts explained the national security implications if the nation did not address the biological threat that exists against our vulnerable, and destructible, plant and animal population.

Recognizing the Threat

In 1999, as the first chairman of the newly-formed Emerging Threats Subcommittee of the Senate Armed Services Committee, Senator Roberts became aware of the threat our nation faced against intentionally introduced pathogens that could be weaponized and aimed at destroying plant and animal populations.

As subcommittee chairman, Senator Roberts was invited to Obolensk, one of Russia's secret cities. On that trip, he witnessed warehouses full of anthrax, hoof and mouth, Newcastle disease, African swine fever, along with strains of small pox, yellow fever and Ebola. All of these deadly viruses in the world—but they had no antidotes. This revelation caused the senator to reflect upon the “evil empire” comments of President Reagan.

Upon his return to Washington, Senator Roberts determined that the nation did not have a first responder plan to a bio or agro attack. The nation's premier biosecurity level 4 animal research facility on Plum Island in New York was severely degraded and incapable of tackling the new threats we faced.

Simply put, the United States lacked a national strategic plan to prevent or contain a bio or agro attack, and that had severe consequences. The backbone of the nation's economy is agriculture. Should the worst occur and a biological attack decimate the nation's plant and animal life, not only would exports stop and U.S. borders close to all agriculture trade, but the economy would crash. Senator Roberts went to work to ensure that would never happen in the United States.

Kansas' Leadership and Expertise Could Help Protect the Nation

Senator Roberts called upon then-Kansas State University President Jon Wefald and emphasized the immediate and dramatic need for action. Senator Roberts knew that the best way forward was in Kansas. K-State had earned an international reputation for its agriculture research. The senator was very proud of what K-State had achieved and knew it would make an excellent home for research focused on mitigating the threat of foreign animal disease.

President Wefald told Senator Roberts that K-State was up to the task and would be a leader in this response effort. Within weeks, President Wefald brought Dr. Ron Trewyn, Vice President of Research at K-State, and others to testify before the Emerging Threats Subcommittee on the threat of agro-terrorism. They testified that while our nation was vulnerable, the key was research and K-State held that key.

National Leaders Respond to Roberts' Warnings

By 2003, as Chairman of the Intelligence Committee, Senator Roberts was able to elevate the threat assessment for a biological attack on the nation's agriculture economy among the Top Five. He ensured the Central Intelligence Agency (CIA) prioritized this threat as the war on terrorism grew. Senator Roberts also encouraged a dialogue between the Intelligence Community, the U.S. Department of Agriculture (USDA), and the newly established Department of Homeland Security (DHS) on new and innovative ways to combat the threat.

level 3 research in a new state-of-the-art facility, while the university raised funding to build what is now known as the Biosecurity Research Institute (BRI).

The BRI played an absolutely critical role in the site selection competition that was to come for a National Bio and Agro-Defense Facility (NBAF) operated by DHS. Without Senator Roberts' leadership and commitment to first establishing a world-class facility like the BRI at the university, the Department of Homeland Security's solicitation for bids to replace Plum Island, by building the first biosecurity level 4 research facility on the U.S. mainland, would have been unthinkable.

As the Kansas State Collegian Editorial Board wrote on May 4, 2004, “K-State has been at the forefront of the war on terrorism since President Bush declared it following the Sept. 11, 2001 attacks. Sen. Pat Roberts is largely to thank. As only the third alumnus to present a Landon Lecture, Roberts spoke Monday about his role as the chair of the Senate’s Select Committee on Intelligence and gave K-Staters a glimpse of one of its most prominent graduates. The bioterrorism

research and other projects on campus are made successful through the efforts of those who spend countless hours in the laboratories, but the funding and recognition brought from Roberts’ political clout is invaluable. Roberts’ position has made him an ambassador of what type of leaders K-State can produce. Thanks to Roberts and others, it remains at the forefront of finding solutions to many of the nation’s problems.”

Kansas Competes — and Wins

In 2007, Senator Roberts addressed the Kansas legislature during the fierce site competition for the biosecurity level 4 facility. While Kansas had the expertise to do the work, it also had the money. Because of the senator’s strong working relationship with many state legislators and the governor, he was able to help convince the state to

commit 25 percent of the laboratory’s total cost in their final bid to DHS.

In the end, the BRI, the reputation for research, the community’s support and the funding all made Manhattan’s bid for NBAF a winner.



Transportation

South Lawrence Trafficway

Long-hailed as “the Road to Nowhere” by frustrated local residents, the South Lawrence Trafficway is an important economic development and public safety issue, not only for the people of Lawrence and Douglas Counties, but for all of Kansas.

Senator Roberts championed efforts in Congress to ensure the South Lawrence Trafficway project received the federal support needed to begin construction. Much of Kansas’ current and future economic growth will occur in this area, and the South Lawrence Trafficway is necessary to move people safely between their homes and jobs. It is especially critical to the development of Kansas’ High Tech Corridor connecting Johnson County safely and efficiently with points in the west.

For 20 years, how to address the need to connect K-10 Highway and the Kansas Turnpike was debated by the state and the impacted communities and citizens. Alignment concepts were developed to allow engineers and planners to consider in greater detail the potential benefits and consequences of various designs for the South Lawrence Trafficway. In 2002, the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers’ issued a permit to the Kansas Department of Transportation (KDOT), granting KDOT the permission to complete the eastern leg of the South Lawrence Trafficway on the 32nd Street route.

In 2005, through the federal appropriations process, Senator Roberts secured \$1.5 million to begin construction on the eastern portion of the South Lawrence Trafficway on the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers’ approved 32nd Street route.

This federal investment allowed the Kansas Department of Transportation, the City of Lawrence, and Douglas County to move forward with the project.

In 2006, the Federal Highway Administration (FHWA) announced its intent to adopt the Final Environmental Impact Statement of the Army Corps of Engineers regarding the selection of the 32nd Street alignment for the South Lawrence Trafficway.

In addition to rallying, coordinating and organizing community and state support at key times through the permitting process, Senator Roberts led the Kansas delegation in sending two letters to the FHWA with a

strong show of support for the Army Corps of Engineers Record of Decision that approved the 32nd Street route for the South Lawrence Trafficway.

In 2008, the South Lawrence Trafficway got another step further when the FHWA released its final approval clearing the way for federal funds to be spent on construction of the South Lawrence Trafficway.

The Baldwin City Signal highlighted Senator Roberts’ work on the project, “The financing, requested by U.S. Sen. Pat Roberts, is included in a federal transportation bill passed earlier this month by the Senate and sent to a conference committee for consolidation with the House version. There’s no telling when or if a finished bill might win approval and head to President Barack Obama for a signature, but the support from Washington already is paying off in Kansas, where officials are busy crafting support for a state transportation program.”



In 2010, Senator Roberts again secured \$1.25 million for the South Lawrence Trafficway construction. In the fall of 2016, thanks to Senator Roberts' vision and sustained leadership, the eastern leg of the South Lawrence Trafficway

was completed. In November 2016, Senator Roberts participated the ribbon cutting ceremony, officially opening the South Lawrence Trafficway to travelers.

General Aviation

Kansas ranks number one when it comes to per capita economic impact of general aviation. The aviation industry directly and indirectly supports more than 42,000 jobs in Kansas and contributes \$3.7 billion annually to the state's economy.

Kansas is home to many aviation and manufacturing businesses, including Textron, Bombardier-Learjet and Garmin, just to name a few. As a member of the Senate Finance Committee, Senator Pat Roberts has served as an effective voice for general aviation.

Better transition user fees on general aviation (GA), which could be used for the funding of the Federal Aviation Administration (FAA), would have a chilling effect on aviation research and development.

That's why every time the user fee issue comes up in Congress, the GA industry turns to Senator Roberts to stop the proposal in its tracks. Senator Roberts has won the battle—and will not stop fighting as attempts to impose new user fees are proposed.

The battle first began in 2006 during the drafting of the FAA reauthorization bill. During consideration of the legislation, the Senate Commerce Committee proposed increasing general aviation's contribution to the Airport and Airway Trust Fund, through a user fee, to pay for the modernization of our Air Traffic Control system. These user fees would have forced small business owners to shoulder a disproportionate share of the burden to overhaul the nation's Air Traffic Control system.

In his position on the Senate Finance Committee, Senator Roberts successfully fought and won; by 2008, user fees were struck from the FAA reauthorization compromise agreement. Instead, general aviation was allowed to pay through their effective and efficient tax structure of the fuel tax, a policy

that GA and Roberts believed was fair for all.

Following the passage of the FAA reauthorization, many invested in general aviation praised Senator Roberts' work on the user fee issue. "We're on final approach to an FAA funding bill in the Senate," said Aircraft Owners and Pilots Association (AOPA) President Phil Boyer, "and we finally got clearance because of the support and determination of AOPA members who were willing to accept a tax increase, if truly necessary, to support a modernized air traffic control system, but stood rock solid against user fees...Sen. Pat Roberts (R-Kan.) also played a pivotal role on the Finance Committee."

The Wichita Eagle blogged on April 30, 2008, "The U.S. Senate went into this week's debate on revamping the air traffic control system having negotiated away the worrisome prospect of fees on general aviation's airport use. Kansas Sens. Pat Roberts and Sam Brownback and Rep. Todd Tiahrt, R-Goddard, deserve praise for fighting hard against that funding method, which would have hurt Wichita's planemakers by driving up the costs of owning and flying their products."

During the recession of 2008, Senator Roberts defended business and general aviation from frequent denigration by President Obama himself. Often the president would refer to business aviation as "fat-cat corporate jets." At a dinner at the White House, Senator Roberts stood toe-to-toe with



Senator Roberts and Congressman Todd Tiahrt tour U.S. Secretary of Transportation Mary Peters through Cessna, Wichita in 2006.

President Obama and asked him to stop attacking an industry that is made up of thousands of American workers, particularly Kansans.

Pat Roberts will always be a champion for general aviation.

In January 2016, as the GA industry again looked to Senator Roberts for assistance with the next FAA reauthorization bill, National Business Aviation Association President Ed Bolan personally wrote to the senator, "...we take great comfort in the fact

that our cause will be fought by a Marine from Dodge City with a lot of combat experience with this issue. Senator, thank you for being a great champion for Kansas and our GA community. You are always there when we need you most."

During the 114th and 115th Congresses, Senator Roberts has repeatedly and successfully fought efforts to privatize air traffic control and user fees, which would put general aviation at a disadvantage.

National Institute for Aviation Research



Aviation has been an important sector of the Kansas economy, and Senator Roberts understands the need to ensure new opportunities are made available with the changing technology. That is why he has supported the National Institute for Aviation Research (NIAR) throughout his time in Congress. NIAR was created by Wichita State University in 1985. The institute provides testing, training, certification and research to the aviation manufacturing community.

In 2002, Senator Roberts secured a \$750,000 grant for NIAR research through the appropriations process. These funds were used to extend basic research on the physics of ice formation on surfaces. Leading aviation manufacturers were able to utilize this information to ensure new and existing airplanes could resist icing conditions.

Later that year, Senator Roberts, along with Senator Brownback and Congressman Tiahrt, brought representatives from the Federal Aviation Administration (FAA) to NIAR to showcase the important composite research underway at NIAR. In December, an announcement was made that

Wichita State University would have a new role in aviation research with the establishment of an FAA Center of Excellence for Composites and Advanced Materials at NIAR.

In 2008, Senator Roberts secured \$2.375 million for NIAR in the FY 2009 appropriations. This funding was used to support and improve NIAR's ongoing aviation safety research in the areas of metallic and nonmetallic structures, crashworthiness, and aging aircraft effects.

Following the funding announcement, then-Wichita State University President Donald Beggs commended Senator Roberts on securing funding for NIAR. "I want to personally thank you and your staff for your continued support of Wichita State University and our efforts to support the Kansas aviation industry. In addition, your efforts will continue to make Wichita State University one of the key contributors to this progress. Programs such as those supported last year help ensure that the United States will remain a strong aviation pioneer and that Wichita, Kansas, will remain the Air Capital of the World."

In 2009, Senator Roberts secured \$600,000 in the FY 2010 appropriations (Commerce, Justice and Science) for NIAR research. The funding was used to conduct advanced materials research. He also secured \$1.5 million for NIAR in the FY 2010 appropriations (Transportation, Housing and Urban Development). This funding was used for composite airframe maintenance and airworthiness education and training at NIAR. The research was used to develop a systematic approach to providing safe use of composite and other advanced materials.



Education

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Common Core Education Standards Initiative

In defiance of federal law, which makes it very clear that the U.S. Department of Education may not be involved in setting specific content standards or determining the content of state education assessments, the Obama administration began coercing states to implement Common Core.

The Obama administration required states to adopt Common Core standards to receive federal funding under the multibillion-dollar Race to the Top program, and used federal funds to develop Common Core-aligned tests. These acts, among others by the federal government, quickly clouded the Common Core picture.

Senator Roberts fought against this one-size-fits-all federal education agenda because he firmly believes local control is best when it comes to

education. Decisions about what children are taught are best made at the local level, as close to parents as possible. The federal government should not have overriding influence over state and local education decisions.

Simply put, the Department of Education has incentivized and coerced states into implementing Common Core education standards. They have also threatened to withhold waivers from onerous provisions of No Child Left Behind if states do not adopt Common Core, or similarly aligned standards and assessments.

Senator Roberts knew it would take an act of Congress to stop the Obama overreach. In 2014, he first introduced the LOCAL Level Act, S. 1974, to explicitly prohibit the federal government's role and involvement in Common Core.

His legislation would strictly forbid the federal government from intervening in a state's education standards, curricula and assessments through the use of incentives, mandates, grants, waivers or any other form of manipulation. His legislation preserves state education autonomy.

Roberts' LOCAL Level Act was strongly supported by Heritage Action for America, the Home School Legal Defense Association (HSLDA), Eagle Forum, FreedomWorks and the Family Search Council.

In 2015, as a new Congress under Republican leadership began, Roberts reintroduced the LOCAL Level Act, S. 182. This time, he had a path forward, successfully fighting to include his bill in legislation to reauthorize the Elementary and Secondary Education Act (ESEA).

The bipartisan Every Child Achieves Act, S. 1177, which reauthorizes elementary and secondary education programs, passed the Senate on July 16, 2015, with Senator Roberts' support, by a vote of 81-17. Since the House also passed its own version of the bill (H.R. 5), the two chambers went to conference to hammer out the differences. As a member of the Senate HELP Committee, Senator Roberts was appointed to the conference committee, where he worked to

ensure his language was in the final legislation.

The Every Student Succeeds Act includes Senator Roberts' language from his LOCAL Level Act, to permanently end the federal government's ability to use any incentive or tool of coercion to force states to adopt Common Core—or any future set of standards. Senator Roberts' provisions prohibit the administration from finding additional ways to promote a state's adoption of Common Core.

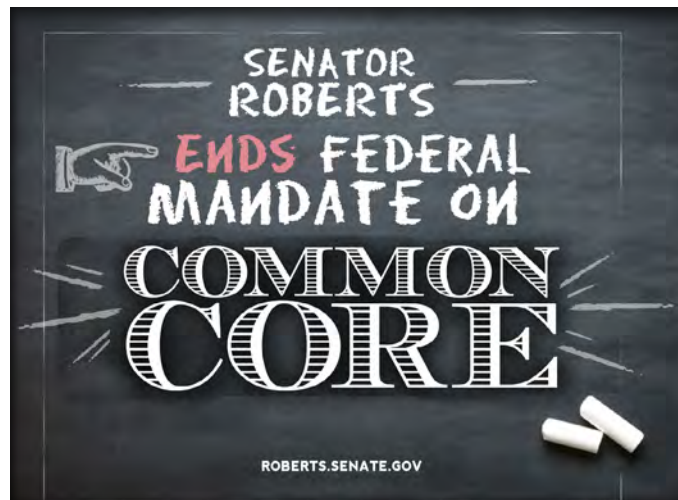
Setting high standards for our schools, our teachers and our children is the right thing to do,

but those standards should be decided in Kansas. Senator Roberts believes we need to get the federal government out of the classroom, and return community decisions back to where they belong—in the community.

The Every Student Succeeds Act passed the Senate by a vote of 85-12, after

passing the U.S. House of Representatives by a vote of 359-64. The Every Student Succeeds Act is the conference agreement between both chambers. On December 10, 2015, the president signed the legislation into law.

With the Every Student Succeeds Act becoming law, we can finally say goodbye to federal interference in what children are taught in school, thanks to Senator Roberts.



Roberts Blue Ribbon Advisory Committee on Science, Technology and the Future

In 1997, Senator Roberts created a blue ribbon committee of Kansas leaders in government, academia and the private sector to advise him on the state's science and technology needs. The goal was to make Kansas more competitive in a global marketplace increasingly reliant on research and technology and to provide

economic opportunity to stop out-migration of Kansas' best and brightest.

Eventually, the highest profile success of The Roberts Advisory Committee on Science, Technology and the Future included the implementation of policies and increases in federal

investments to further the research goals of Kansas State University in plant and animal science (NBAF and BRI), Wichita State University in composite and aviation research, Pittsburg State University in polymer research and the University of Kansas in life science research (NCI Cancer Center) just to name a few.

The Committee was comprised of seven, and later eight, task forces reporting to chairpersons on many topics including:

1. Agriculture and the Environment
2. Aviation
3. Bioscience (human, plant and animal)
4. Energy
5. Information Technology and Computers
6. Manufacturing
7. Materials
8. Homeland Security

The task forces met regularly, and the entire Advisory Committee met annually with Senator Roberts.

In 2000, it became clear to Senator Roberts that

university research was the best way to harness federal investment. In this area, Kansas was losing to other states. To earn this federal investment, the state would need to be encouraged to provide infrastructure. Senator Roberts addressed the state legislature twice to steer the investment of state dollars to research infrastructure and soon after, the state approved nearly \$150 million in bonding authority. This would never have been done without Senator Pat Roberts' encouragement and the efforts of the members of the Advisory Committee and its relevant task forces.

The results of the Advisory Committee's guidance for Senator Roberts are quantifiable. For example, according to the University of Kansas, since 2006 the NCI designation pursuit has created 2,088 jobs and had a regional economic impact of \$557 million through 2013. NBAF will create as many as 500 high-paying, scientific federal jobs in the state of Kansas, plus additional jobs in research partnerships. Over a 20 year period, it is estimated that the facility will have a \$3.5 billion impact on the Kansas economy. The construction of the facility is expected to create 1,500 construction jobs.



Senator and Franki Roberts, staff and members of the Roberts Blue Ribbon Advisory Committee on Science, Technology and the Future.

Senator Roberts Expands Access to G.I. Bill Funds for Veterans Pursuing Degrees in Agriculture and Natural Resource Sciences

On August 17, 2017, President Trump signed into law the Harry W. Colmery Veterans Educational Assistance Act (PL No: 115-48), including a provision secured by Senator Roberts, that expands the definition of STEM eligible programs to include agriculture and natural resource sciences, allowing these students access to an extra year of funding. The legislation, introduced by Veterans Committee Chairman Senator Johnny Isakson (R-GA.), was named in honor of Emporia, Kansas, native and Army war veteran Harry W. Colmery.

“I have worked hard to help establish a new science and technology-based economy in Kansas based on biological and life sciences research,” Roberts said. “We need to bolster our workforce with those trained in agriculture sciences and in natural resource sciences. The demand for these skill sets is there. If we can help our veterans study these sciences, they can be a part of this growing economy. I am thankful to Senator Isakson for his leadership and willingness to work with me to give veteran students the resources they need to do just that.”

Senator Roberts, Chairman of the Senate Committee on Agriculture, Nutrition and Forestry, requested the inclusion of these additional sciences following testimony before the Agriculture Committee by Dr. John Floros, Kansas State

University’s Dean of Agriculture and Director of K-State Research and Extension. Dean Floros said, “We support initiatives to enhance the number of students selecting agriculture and related disciplines for their university training. We encourage the Committee to explore avenues so

that the next Farm Bill can raise national awareness of and authorization to begin to tackle this challenge of worldwide food security.”

To recognize the benefits for veterans to study these fields, Dr. Pat Bosco, Vice President for Student Life at Kansas State University said, “This

legislation would be a huge opportunity for veterans to attend higher education in this country. At Kansas State University in the past year, we served over 1,000 veterans who used their benefits. As a land grant university, we believe it is our mission to provide access to higher education and legislation such as this provides access to a valued group of students.”

In addition to granting an extra year of funding for veterans studying STEM fields, this new law also removes the 15-year cap on the use of educational benefits, allowing veterans to pursue educational opportunities at any point during their post-service career.



Harry W. Colmery Park in Topeka, Kansas.



Energy

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Protecting Citizens from Natural Gas Explosions

In January 2001, eight miles northwest of Hutchinson, Kansas, technicians at the Yaggy Interstate underground natural gas storage field noticed a dramatic drop in pressure in one manmade salt cavern that they had been filling with natural gas. What they observed was 143 million cubic feet of compressed natural gas leaking from the Yaggy storage field. As a result, the escaped natural gas traveled approximately nine miles underground, then rose to the surface making approximately 15 gas blowholes.

An explosion in the downtown area of Hutchinson destroyed two businesses and damaged 26 others. The next day another explosion in a mobile home park took two lives. The Kansas National Guard

was called in to help evacuate parts of the city because of the gas leaks. These events were televised nationally across the country.

In direct response, Kansas statutes and Kansas Corporation Commission (KCC) regulations were enacted and adopted to regulate safety of underground natural gas storage. However, in 2009 Colorado Interstate Gas Co. challenged the KCC's jurisdiction over interstate gas storage facilities.

In the end, federal law was determined to preempt state regulation of interstate gas storage fields, therefore invalidating the actions of the state legislature and the KCC in the wake of the explosions.

In order to address this problem, Senator Roberts and the KCC began discussions in 2013 regarding legislation to remove the state preemption clause from the Natural Gas Pipeline Safety Act regarding jurisdiction over interstate storage facilities. Later that same year, Senator Roberts, along with fellow Kansas Senator Jerry Moran, introduced the Underground Gas Storage Facility Safety Act. Unfortunately, this bill was not called to the floor for a vote and as a result, 11 interstate natural gas storage fields (comprised of more than 800 wells) in Kansas were left unregulated.

Determined to find a solution, Senator Roberts again introduced the Underground Gas Storage Facility Safety Act in 2015 vowing to work with Senator Jerry

Moran, a member of the Commerce Committee, to see that his legislation be included in the Pipeline Safety Act reauthorization, a law that authorizes the U.S.

Department of Transportation Pipeline and Hazardous Materials Safety Administration (PHMSA) federal pipeline safety programs, which was set to expire in September 2015.

“It’s been over 10 years since we lost two lives to a gas explosion in Hutchinson, and the federal government is still nowhere to be found,” Roberts said. “This threat is real. Our first priority is to protect Kansans from harm. We need strong oversight in the storage of natural gas reserves, and in the absence of federal leadership, the state must be allowed to step up and protect its people. Inaction opens the door for a real tragedy, so we must act and put our faith in our own people on the ground to protect their families, friends and neighbors.”



Hutchinson gas fire.

As a result of his work with Senator Moran and the Commerce Committee, Senator Roberts successfully secured language in the final version of the Securing America’s Future Energy: Protecting Infrastructure of Pipelines and Enhancing Safety (SAFE PIPES) Act. The legislation established the first nationwide standards for underground gas storage facilities and greater oversight of underground natural gas storage facilities protecting citizens in Kansas and across the country from future incidents similar to the explosions in Hutchinson, Kansas, in 2001.

Following passage of the SAFE PIPES Act in the Senate by unanimous consent, John Montgomery of The Hutchinson News editorial board wrote

that, “U.S. Sens. Pat Roberts and Jerry Moran of Kansas deserve credit for working hard to plug a hole in safety policy for underground natural gas storage. Thanks to their efforts, a bill passed the Senate last week that instructs the Pipeline and Hazardous Materials Safety Administration (PHMSA) to develop underground natural gas storage standards. It’s an issue because

Kansas alone has 11 interstate underground storage sites containing over 270 billion cubic feet of gas that have gone without regulatory oversight for four years.”

The Wichita Eagle editorial board member Rhonda Holman also stated, “Credit Kansas Sens. Pat Roberts and Jerry Moran for tenacity in winning Senate approval of legislation that would restore inspection of the 11 underground gas storage facilities in Kansas, by attaching the provision to a pipeline safety bill.”

In June of 2016, shortly after passage in the Senate, President Obama signed the bipartisan PIPES Act into law (P.L. 114-183).

Telecommunications

Protecting GPS Users

In 2011, Senator Roberts led the charge to protect public safety, aviation, military and precision agriculture uses of Global Positioning Systems (GPS) from the potential harmful interference of LightSquared, a company that sought to develop a wholesale 4G LTE wireless broadband network integrated with satellite coverage across the United States.

Prior to the senator's involvement, the Federal Communications Commission (FCC) had granted a conditional waiver in 2011 to allow LightSquared to build 40,000 ground stations throughout the United States for terrestrial deployment of its proposed broadband wireless network. As a result, the senator and others raised concerns that the stations could cause widespread interference to nearby GPS receivers, because the spectrum used by LightSquared was adjacent to the spectrum used by GPS.

In May 2011, Senator Roberts and Senator Ben Nelson (D-NE) sent a letter to then-FCC Chairman Julius Genachowski, asking him to take all necessary steps to protect GPS. "There is too much at stake in interfering with a tool we all use, and on which our public safety and national security depend so heavily," said Roberts. "The FCC must be involved in this process and the commissioners must require an objective demonstration of non-interference before LightSquared's system gets the go-ahead. GPS is too important for any interference to be tolerated."

Tests were conducted to determine whether the company's technology could be implemented without interference to GPS systems, but the results were not satisfactory. Senator Roberts introduced an amendment to prohibit the FCC from using any appropriated funds that would allow LightSquared to build a broadband network until the agency could prove the expansion would not interfere with GPS.

"While I will continue to support efforts to expand broadband across the U.S., particularly in

underserved rural parts of Kansas, any proposal that could have negative impacts on aviation, navigation and safety, is unacceptable and cannot go forward without unequivocally proving that it doesn't interfere with these systems. The results are clear—the FCC should deny this license," said Roberts.

"There is too much at stake in interfering with a tool we all use, and on which our public safety and national security depend so heavily," said Roberts.

National Business Aviation Association (NBAA) president and CEO Ed Bolen thanked the senator for his efforts saying, "The business aviation community thanks Senator Roberts for introducing this important amendment. We are not opposed to the development and deployment of new or improved technology systems like LightSquared—as long as it is conclusively proven that it will not result in radio interference with GPS systems or pose any threat to the global aviation transportation system."

The FCC eventually rejected LightSquared's plan to create their wireless network. "The FCC's decision late yesterday followed extensive testing by the National Telecommunications and Information Administration and other agencies, which concluded deployment of the LightSquared network would have caused irreparable harm to GPS dependent industries, such as aviation, defense, personal location devices and agriculture, because the spectrum used by LightSquared is adjacent to the spectrum used by GPS," said Roberts.

Senator Roberts worked with many companies and associations in this effort including Garmin, John Deere & Company, Case New Holland, FedEx, UPS, NBAA, Aircraft Owners and Pilots Association (AOPA), General Aviation Manufacturers Association (GAMA), National Rural Electric Cooperatives Association, Caterpillar, Agricultural Retailers Association, the American Association of State Highway and Transportation Officials among others.



Greensburg Tornado and Recovery

On May 4, 2007, an EF-5 tornado ripped through the western Kansas town of Greensburg, destroying nearly 95 percent of the city and killing 11 people. One of the senator's top priorities was to help the town rebuild and return to normal life. He assisted Greensburg by successfully competing for grants and gaining tax relief for businesses and homeowners.

Senator Roberts' efforts began immediately. In the pre-dawn hours after the deadly storm, Senator Roberts drove to Greensburg to meet with emergency responders and to ensure the state and local authorities had everything they needed to help Kansans in need. He toured the area, was briefed by officials on the ground and then traveled to a shelter that had been set up for victims.

After consoling many whose homes had been destroyed, and armed with his own accounts of the damage of the storm and the needs of the residents, Senator Roberts called President George W. Bush from a McDonald's restaurant in Pratt — the first place he could get cellular phone service.

Senator Roberts told the president that emergency disaster declaration requests would be coming

from the governor and urged his immediate approval. Before the senator could finish his request, President Bush assured Senator Roberts the state would have whatever it needed.

Senator Roberts invited President Bush to Kansas to view the damage first hand, and the president accepted. A few days later, Roberts and President Bush led the Kansas Congressional delegation through the town of Greensburg to meet with affected families and business owners.

At the same time, Senator Roberts' staff



President George W. Bush welcomes Senator Roberts aboard Air Force One en route to Greensburg, Kansas, to survey tornado damage and recovery efforts.

immediately responded by opening offices on the weekend to field calls from citizens in need. Senator Roberts tapped one of his senior staffers, Mel Thompson, to work full time in and around Greensburg. Mel was on site every day for months and remained in the community on a regular basis for more than a year.

One of the first pieces of federal assistance to be announced was FEMA's declaration that Greensburg and surrounding communities would receive 100 percent reimbursement for any costs incurred during the 72 hours following the storm. Usually, FEMA only covers up to 75 percent of the costs, but with Senator Roberts' help, the agency agreed that the damage in Greensburg warranted a full reimbursement for reconstruction.

Likewise, Senator Roberts moved to develop federal relief programs for victims of the storm. The Senate passed a package of tax relief provisions, the Kansas Disaster Tax Relief Assistance Act (S. 1532), which was later added to the Food, Conservation and Energy Act of 2008, commonly referred to as the Farm Bill and passed into law.

The legislation provided small businesses with an employee retention tax credit and increased the expensing limit for businesses who continued to pay their employees while the city was rebuilding. The new rules allowed small businesses to expense up to 50 percent of the clean-up and demolition costs during the renovation process.

Greensburg Post Office

After the devastating tornado destroyed the Greensburg Post Office, Senator Roberts made sure that United States Postal Service delivered a trailer to use as a temporary facility for the citizens of Greensburg.

However, as the years went on, USPS failed to move from the temporary facility to a permanent building. With the financial crisis that USPS was dealing with, Greensburg was worried they would take away the temporary facility and never replace the post office—following the trend of many rural post offices that were being closed. After many conversations with Sue Greenleaf in 2014,



Having rushed to the area the morning after the May 4, 2007, tornado in Greensburg, Senator Roberts surveys damage with the Kansas Highway Patrol.

Finally, the bill waived the penalty for early withdrawal from IRA and other retirement plans for affected individuals.

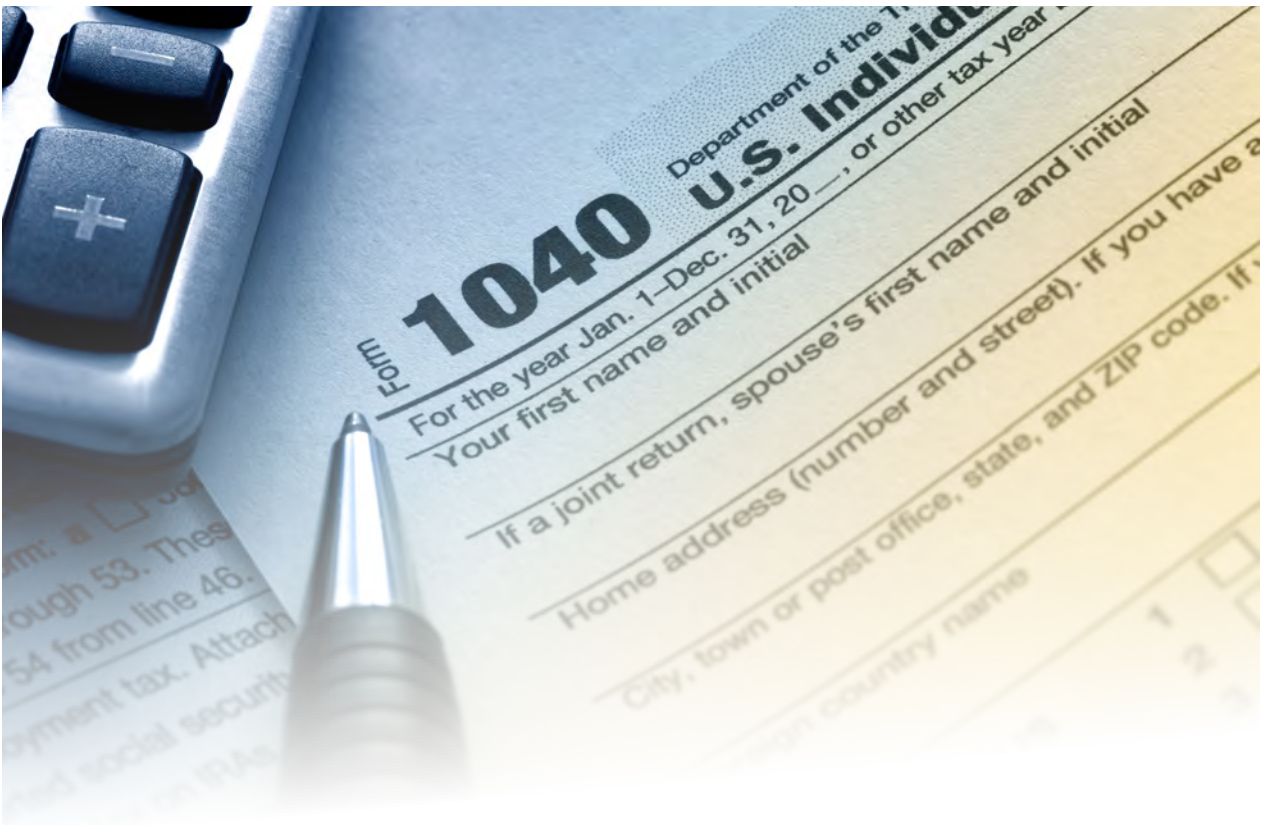
Following Hurricane Katrina, Greensburg became the national model for rebuilding from a natural disaster. State, local and federal governments worked together to rapidly rebuild and assist those in need based on the model that Senator Roberts helped to create in Kansas.

Senator Roberts was honored to be asked to address the Greensburg High School graduation twice, once with President George W. Bush. He recognized each member of the class of 2007 and declared them the "Class of Destiny and Hope" for their perseverance.

Senator Roberts wrote a letter to the USPS Central Plains District Manager alerting him for the need for a permanent facility.

Although this letter drew some attention, Senator Roberts did not stop there. He made more calls to the D.C. USPS office, the District Plains Office and the Regional USPS offices on behalf of the citizens of Greensburg.

In 2015, USPS announced they were bidding on a permanent location to house the Greensburg Post Office.



Taxes

Oversight of the Internal Revenue Service

In the run up to the 2010 election, Senator Roberts received several reports from Kansas charities that the Internal Revenue Service (IRS) was attempting to stifle the ability of conservative social welfare organizations to participate in the electoral process.

For Senator Roberts, these reports raised a number of very serious concerns. Working with his colleagues on the Senate Finance Committee, Roberts began to make inquiries to the IRS to determine what the IRS was doing. Over the course of several months, it became increasingly clear that the agency was engaged in a systematic effort to suppress the First Amendment rights of groups whose positions were different from those of the Obama administration. Subsequently, in 2013, officials of the IRS, including Lois Lerner

(Director of the IRS's Exempt Organizations unit), publicly acknowledged that they had been subjecting certain conservative groups to inappropriate scrutiny in their applications for tax-exempt status.

Since the scandal was uncovered, Senator Roberts has taken a hard line against Internal Revenue Service harassment of non-profit groups. The senator was concerned that the agency had been overtly politicized, which led to a serious loss of public faith in the agency. In response to the issues raised by the agency's actions, Senator Roberts called for a joint congressional committee to investigate the targeting scandal.

Senator Roberts demanded a full and transparent accounting from the Internal Revenue Service of

its actions to intimidate conservative political groups saying, “This misconduct was most certainly agenda driven politics and bias gone unchecked, despite the IRS’s best attempts to claim otherwise. A mere apology will not be sufficient to ensure Kansans, and all Americans, will not be singled out and harassed by an agency of the federal government for their political beliefs.”

In 2014 and 2015, Senator Roberts introduced the Stop Targeting of Political Beliefs by the IRS Act. The legislation prevents further targeting of conservative social welfare organizations by the IRS by reverting back to the standards and definitions that were in place prior to the agency’s inappropriate targeting. The bill also suspends for one year any IRS rulemaking related to 501(c)(4)s, including the new candidate-related political activity definition. In a significant victory for taxpayers, the Stop Targeting of Political Beliefs by the IRS Act was included in the 2015 year-end appropriations bill, the Consolidated Appropriations Act (P.L. 114-113), signed into law on December 18, 2015.

The Consolidated Appropriations Act also included Senator Roberts’ bill to prohibit the federal government and the IRS from providing performance awards to employees who owe outstanding federal tax debt or who have violated U.S. tax law. “Given what we know about recent IRS actions—and the growing discontent with the agency that I hear every day from Kansans—continuing to award personnel bonuses to

employees who have outstanding tax liabilities or have violated the tax laws is outrageous and should be stopped,” Roberts said. “This isn’t a partisan issue—it’s just commonsense. Until the IRS gets back on course, it should not be in the business of awarding bonuses—particularly to its agents who are unable or unwilling to abide by the tax laws they are directed to uphold.”

In 2015, Senator Roberts also successfully blocked an IRS rule that would call on charities to collect and hold personal donor information, and report such data to the agency. Roberts had heard from numerous charitable groups in Kansas that the proposal would have a chilling effect on charitable giving and would add costly data security burdens to charitable organizations. “The rule would provide the IRS detailed information on who is making donations to particular charities,” Roberts said. “The IRS has already threatened donors in groups that it doesn’t like. I don’t think we can trust them with a new source of data on donors. There also is no assurance that the agency will stop at this voluntary rule and move to make such reporting mandatory for all contributions and all charities,” said Roberts.

On December 8, 2015, Senator Roberts introduced the Protecting Charitable Contributions Act (S. 2370) to block the IRS from taking action on the charitable reporting proposal. In response to the Roberts bill, the IRS withdrew the proposed regulations without offering any new alternatives.

Tax Policy Leadership

Senator Roberts’ approach to tax policy is based on two commonsense principles. The first is that the federal government’s tax burden on the economy—measured in terms of revenue and compliance—should be as limited as possible.

The second principle is that tax policy should encourage economic activity.

In practical terms, these principles shape Senator Roberts’ work to simplify the tax code and to reduce tax rates for individuals and businesses. He is committed to reforming the tax system and replacing it with a simple, efficient and pro-growth plan.

Senator Roberts’ efforts to modernize the tax system are based on his views – and those of his constituents—that the best tax system takes as little out of the pockets of taxpayers, and seeds as much cash as possible into the economy.

Kansas, not Washington, is where people are best able to make decisions on how to spend their hard-earned income. “We can and should continue tax relief to all taxpayers—tax relief that helps families keep more of their hard-earned dollars and tax relief that provides certainty to small businesses so they can make investments and create jobs without the fear that

their taxes will go up. We need to extend this tax relief that keeps money in the hands of families and small businesses, rather than putting it in the pocket of Uncle Sam,” said Roberts in 2010. (Senate Remarks, September 27, 2010).

Senator Roberts has consistently voted in favor of tax relief measures, because Kansas families and small businesses deserve to keep more of their hard-earned dollars. Tax relief implemented since 1997 has resulted in lower individual income tax rates provided marriage penalty relief, doubled the child tax credit, provided estate tax relief, lowered capital gains and dividend rates and provided relief for middle-class families from the burdensome Alternative Minimum Tax (AMT). With respect to individual and family tax burdens, since 1996, Roberts has voted to reduce the tax bills for individuals and businesses by \$1.6 trillion (per Joint Tax Committee scoring; updated to include PATH).

Senator Roberts recently achieved billions in tax relief for Kansas taxpayers with the enactment of the Protecting Americans from Tax Hikes (PATH) Act (P.L. 114-113), which included a number of provisions that the senator has long championed to be made permanent, including the research and development (R&D) tax credit; Section 179 Property expensing; tax relief for S Corporations from the “built-in gains tax;” and provisions that allow eligible members of the military to qualify for the Low Income Housing Tax Credit (LIHTC). The PATH Act also included a provision written by Senator Roberts—a five-year extension of fifty percent bonus depreciation on new equipment and property purchases. Senator Roberts’ tax cutting efforts totaled over \$300 billion in permanent tax relief for businesses and individuals, and over \$138 billion in temporary tax relief (per Joint Tax Committee scoring).

Senator Roberts has been frequently recognized for his efforts on behalf of taxpayers, including small businesses. He has been commended by the National Federation of Independent Business, which said on his 2014 reelection, “Over the years, Senator Roberts has shown us that he understands the challenges facing small business.”

The National Retail Federation and the National Taxpayer Union have also commended Senator Roberts for his advocacy and leadership on behalf of small business. These awards recognize the importance of lowering taxes, reducing regulatory

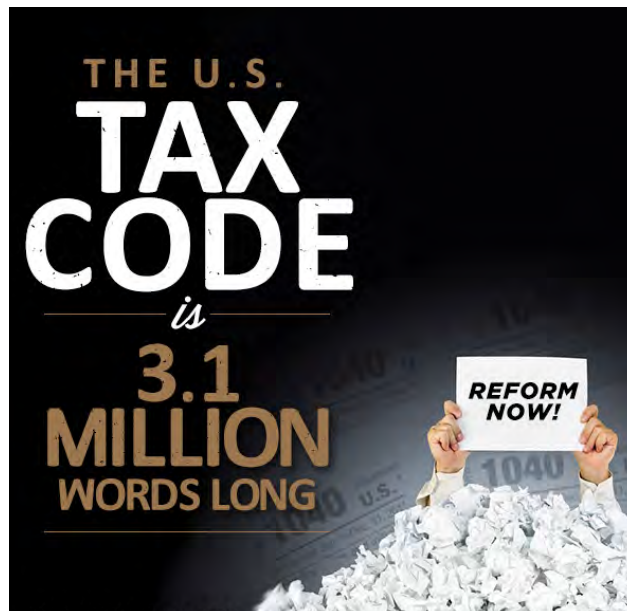
burdens and creating policy stability. Roberts has similarly been recognized as a “Taxpayer Hero” by the Council for Citizens Against Government Waste for his efforts to cut excessive federal spending, reduce taxes and make government more accountable to taxpayers.

To best understand business and how federal policy affects how they

operate, invest and create jobs, Senator Roberts regularly meets with businesses and entrepreneurs in Kansas. Through these visits, he has developed a strong understanding of the importance of tax policies that encourage investment and economic growth.

One area where he has achieved notable success are his proposals to improve and expand the research and development tax credit. “Research and development in new technologies and new products is an important source of economic growth. The new technologies, products and lower prices generated by investments in R&D create new jobs, raise wages and create new demand for goods and services,” said Roberts.

Working with Kansas-based high technology, engineering and life science startup companies,



Senator Roberts developed a proposal to address one of the key issues facing these young, innovative companies—how to build capital for investment and research. The Protecting Americans from Tax Hikes Act enacted this proposal, the Innovators Job Creation Act, allowing startups to claim a credit against the taxes paid on employee wages. In applauding the introduction of the legislation, the Coalition of Small Business Innovators said, “America’s economy depends on the success of job-creating small businesses, and the Start-up Jobs and Innovation Act will spur investment in growing research-centric companies.”

The Technology Councils of North America echoed this praise, noting that “Clearly, the (“Innovators Job Creation Act”) will expand the availability of the R&D tax credit to many more of these small firms, providing much needed support to create jobs and new products and technologies that fuel our economic growth.”

When the economy is in poor shape, Senator Roberts has pushed for tax relief to free up cash for investment.

Some of the best tools for jumpstarting investment have been bonus depreciation and small business expensing. Bonus depreciation and small business expensing lower a company’s taxable income while increasing earnings available for investment. On June 24, 2015, Senator Roberts introduced legislation to make bonus depreciation permanent (S. 1660). The legislation, which provides close to \$30 billion in tax relief to businesses, was included in the Protecting Americans from Tax Hikes Act. “I commend your goal in creating a pro-investment tax environment that will spur much needed economic growth and jobs and provide a bridge to broader tax reform” (National Propane Gas Association letter of support, June 30, 2015).

“Providing certainty to the tax code makes the difficult business of running a farm more manageable. Farm Bureau puts a priority on tax code provisions that give farm and ranch businesses the ability to deduct expenses immediately instead of having to depreciate them over time, so they can improve cash flow and better match income and expenses” (American Farm Bureau Federation commends Roberts for efforts to

make Section 179 expensing permanent, letter dated February 4, 2015).

Farm and livestock operations are subject to unique tax and cash flow challenges due to volatility in production and commodity prices. The unique nature of agricultural production is recognized in the tax code, which includes a number of provisions designed to help farmers and ranchers account for market volatility. As one of Congress’ agricultural policy leaders and an expert on tax policy, Senator Roberts has been uniquely positioned to shape tax policy affecting agricultural producers.

The tax treatment of farm land conservation programs has been an important focus point for Senator Roberts. The Conservation Reserve Program (CRP), one of the most successful private land conservation programs in American history, celebrated its 30th anniversary in 2015. Senator Roberts created the program in 1985 in order to help agriculture producers reduce erosion on marginal agricultural lands. The Conservation Reserve Program pays landowners to remove land from active agricultural production and place the land in conservation programs that restore the land’s overall condition. Currently, more than 400,000 farmers and ranchers are currently participating in the program.

In general, payments a farmer receives for participating in CRP are considered income under the tax code. However, in recent years, various Internal Revenue Service actions and court rulings have changed the way that CRP payments are taxed, creating significant tax liability for farmers and ranchers participating in the program. Beginning in the early-2000s, the IRS took the position that in certain cases CRP earnings were subject to self-employment taxes. Senator Roberts authored legislation, the Heartland, Habitat and Horticulture Act, which was included in the 2008

“ I commend your goal in creating a pro-investment tax environment that will spur much needed economic growth and jobs and provide a bridge to broader tax reform. ”

NATIONAL PROPANE GAS ASSOCIATION

Farm Bill, to exempt CRP payments from self-employment taxes for disabled and retired farmers and ranchers, cutting taxes for these producers by more than \$200 million.

Senator Roberts was also instrumental in the passage of permanent tax deductions for farmers

and ranchers who voluntarily choose to preserve their land as undeveloped open space and working farm and ranch land. The permanent conservation easement provisions, enacted as part of the Protecting Americans from Tax Hikes (PATH) Act, saves farmers and ranchers \$1.2 billion in taxes on a permanent basis. The legislation supports critical conservation efforts, including “water quality, open space, wildlife habitat, keeping common species common and food and fiber production” (letter of support from the Kansas Land Trust, the Nature Conservancy and the

Ranchland Trust of Kansas, July 29, 2015).

Senator Roberts was also responsible for the passage of legislation in 2004, the Emergency Agricultural Disaster Assistance Act, which provided tax relief for producers forced to sell livestock due to weather-related conditions or federal land management agency policy.

Roberts is recognized by the Kansas oil and gas industry as a steadfast friend. “Senator Roberts is solid as a rock, and has always been with us on our issues. There are many factors in the success of the oil and gas industry in Kansas, but Senator Roberts is chief among them. It is critical that we

have leaders in Congress who understand — as Senator Roberts does — that we must take a comprehensive approach to domestic energy production that includes oil and natural gas as a significant part” (Pete Regan, Executive Director, Domestic Energy Production Alliance, May 2014).

Senator Roberts recognizes that oil and natural gas resources play an important part in the livelihoods of Kansans. The Kansas oil and gas industry is a \$6 billion industry that puts tens of thousands of people all across Kansas to work and pumps hundreds of millions of dollars into the state’s economy each year. Over the past decade, the oil and gas industry in Kansas supported an average annual estimated 118,000 jobs, translating to more than \$3 billion in family income.

The importance of the oil and gas industry to Kansas has led Senator Roberts to promote provisions in the existing federal tax code that enable oil and gas production companies to leverage existing resources against tax liability, freeing up cash to invest in more exploration and production. The provisions include depreciation rules for resource production and tax rules that allow for pooled investment in production and transmission property.

These provisions have been periodically attacked as subsidies for “big oil.” In fact, they are standard accounting deductions used by all resource industries, allowing energy producers to deduct resource production costs in the same way as any other business can deduct ordinary business expenses. This is a sound accounting practice that has been in the law since the beginning of the tax code. Senator Roberts understands the unique nature of the oil and gas industry in Kansas, and has worked to protect these provisions from attacks as unwarranted giveaways to big business.

Senator Roberts is also the champion of a type of profit sharing plan, called an S Corporation Employee Stock Ownership Plan (ESOP), common among the innovative high technology and engineering firms in Kansas. Profit sharing plans are a powerful tool in promoting financial

“ It is critical that we have leaders in Congress who understand – as Senator Roberts does – that we must take a comprehensive approach to domestic energy production that includes oil and natural gas as a significant part. ”

**PETE REGAN, EXECUTIVE
DIRECTOR, DOMESTIC ENERGY
PRODUCTION ALLIANCE, MAY 2014**

security in retirement. They are a valuable option for businesses considering a retirement plan, providing benefits to employees and their employers.

Senator Roberts has been the lead co-sponsor of enacted legislation to improve these plans and to remove barriers businesses and employees face

when setting up an ESOP. In 2015, he was successful in enacting \$1.5 billion in tax relief for companies setting up S Corporation ESOPs. “Before we get to next steps, a note of thanks is in order for our terrific champions on the Hill—including Senator Roberts” (Statement of S Corporation Association, December 18, 2015).



**37 SENATORS JOIN
PAT ROBERTS
TO PREVENT IRS TARGETING
OF POLITICAL BELIEFS.**

Tax Cuts and Jobs Act

Senator Roberts has long been concerned about the high burdens the federal tax system imposes on taxpayers, businesses and families. Over his career, he has consistently supported legislation to reduce the tax burden on Kansans to allow them to keep more of their hard-earned dollars. From his seat on the Senate Finance Committee, he has pushed to make fundamental reform of the tax system, to reduce its complexity, to make it fairer for all taxpayers and to make the system more efficient. His key goal is to lower taxes to help create jobs and grow the economy. He also has steadfastly supported pro-growth tax reform that encourages economic activity – allowing markets, rather than government – to make the most efficient use of resources. Lowering the burdens of high tax rates and reducing compliance costs inevitably boosts investment and spurs economic growth.

This perspective shaped Senator Roberts' work on the Tax Cuts and Jobs Act (P.L. No. 115-97), the first comprehensive tax reform enacted by Congress since 1986. As a senior member of the Finance Committee, Senator Roberts was deeply engaged in writing the Tax Cuts and Jobs Act. In the reform process, which began over a decade ago when he first joined the Committee, Senator Roberts brought to the discussions years of experience on individual tax issues, taxation of the farm economy, business tax reform and retirement and savings policy. He was deeply involved in the development of small business tax reform, changes to the taxation of insurance companies and was the lead Senate tax writer on agricultural tax reform.

Senator Roberts' goal for tax reform was to make sure that individual tax rate reductions were as robust as possible because, from the perspective of

farmers, the burdens of high individual income tax rates are the most important feature of the federal income tax system. The result of his efforts saw the first meaningful income tax rate reductions in 30 years, the doubling of the Child Tax Credit and retention of the Child and Dependent Care Tax Credit, the Adoption Tax Credit and the Earned Income Tax Credit. Roberts also pushed for critical tax relief for Americans with expensive medical bills by expanding the medical expense

deduction.

Through his efforts, the average farmer can now protect roughly double the amount of what they earn each year from taxes.

From the standpoint of farm and ranch operations, the tax code plays an outsized role in the manage-

ment of farm businesses and the well-being of the agricultural economy. The tax code affects farm businesses daily, including influencing decisions about investments, supply and equipment purchases, inventory handling, produce sales and the timing of business receipts. Finally, the tax treatment of land and other farm assets in estates affects dissolution or succession decisions farmers and ranchers face.

Senator Roberts' principal goal in shepherding the agricultural community through tax reform was to ensure that the final product maintained the tax code flexibility that farmers and ranchers need to make sound business planning decisions. The tax code has always reflected the volatile nature of production agriculture and has a number of provisions that allow farmers and ranchers to manage the risks associated with uncertain and fluctuating income that results from weather uncertainty, the unpredictable nature of agricultural markets and the world economy.





example, liberalizes the depreciation rules for agricultural operations, giving farmers and ranchers five-year property depreciation and permitting full expensing of plant and equipment purchases. The legislation also improves the ability of the agricultural community to use the cash method of accounting, which provides flexibility in managing cash flow – an essential tool to providing certainty in operations. These

With these features of agriculture in mind, Senator Roberts examined each of the agricultural tax provisions in detail to determine the policy reasons for each, the economic implications of potential changes to these provisions and possible market effects of repeal or revision of these provisions.

Based on his work, the final tax reform bill retained most of the specialized agricultural provisions of the tax code. These include accounting rules that allow farmers to set when they take income and expense onto their books, so that, for example, in a year when commodity prices are low, they can account for costs in a way that keeps them in operation. The final tax bill also left unchanged specific inventory rules to help manage costs associated with livestock and dairy operations and to handle items needed for basic operations – such as fertilizer and crop treatments as well as special agricultural tax provisions for damaged crops and livestock disasters. These rules, in particular, have provided a critical boost to ranchers in Kansas, enabling them to recover from prairie fires and other natural disasters.

In addition to protecting the agriculture-specific provisions of the tax code, the Tax Cuts and Jobs Act includes provisions drafted by Senator Roberts to simplify accounting and depreciation rules to help small and medium-sized business owners, including farmers and ranchers, to more quickly recover investment costs and certain other tax deductible business expenses. The bill, for

provisions encourage new business growth and help existing businesses, including farms and ranches, expand their operations, create new jobs and grow the economy.

Senator Roberts was also a key drafter of the provisions in the legislation to establish a new deduction for income tax earned in passthrough organizations. This is a very important set of provisions for the agricultural community, because the majority of farms and ranches are set up as passthroughs, and most of the income earned by farmers flows through these structures to their individual tax returns. These provisions also address rules for farmer cooperatives, which are an important part of production agriculture. Roberts worked to ensure that the benefits of cooperative farming were held whole in this tax reform plan.

The final tax reform bill also doubles the exemptions from the estate and gift tax. This provision is important to land owning, cash constrained farmers, because farmers and ranchers can reach the exemption amount quickly, requiring many of them to spend thousands of dollars a year on legal and accounting fees to plan for the best way to pass their life's work on to their children, whether they ultimately pay the estate tax or not. Senator Roberts has long believed these fees would be better spent investing in farm and ranch operations.

On passage of the bill, Roberts said, "I am pleased

that the bill reflects the importance of production agriculture to our economy. It is important to keep in mind that few other sectors of the economy face the multiple uncertainties of production agriculture – weather, storms, fires, volatility in global commodity prices, trade disputes, transportation issues and more. With passage of this bill, the agriculture industry will have a number of provisions in the tax code that recognize the uncertain and volatile nature of the income and expense associated with agricultural operations.”

After enactment of the bill, the president of the American Farm Bureau Federation said, “The tax reform package passed by Congress this week will result in lower taxes for the vast majority of farmers and ranchers. This tax overhaul includes many changes to the tax code, most notably lower individual tax rates that will benefit farmers and ranchers. Ninety-four percent of farmers and ranchers pay taxes as individuals, and those rates are coming down. The bill also maintains all of the important deductions and credits that farmers rely on. So, thanks to a lot of hard work by Congress and the administration, farmers will have both lower rates and all the tools they’ve always had to manage their businesses.”

During tax reform, Roberts also led Senate efforts to make sure the business aviation industry, a major component of the Kansas economy, benefited from tax reform. The main issue for the industry was the ability for purchasers of business aircraft to write off the costs of new and used aircraft. The ability to write off these purchases increases demand for the aircraft, leading to new investment and new hiring. Senator Roberts, working with colleagues in the House and the Senate, secured full expensing for both factory-new and pre-owned aircraft. The National Business Aircraft Association praised Senator Roberts for his work on this growth provision, noting that this represents the first time that immediate expensing has ever been applied to used equipment.

The oil and gas industry is a major feature of the Kansas economy, and is a critical contributor to the economic wellbeing of the state. Senator Roberts has always recognized the importance of

the industry to Kansas, and during the development of tax reform legislation, worked with other members of the Finance Committee to understand the pro-growth features of the tax provisions covering the oil and gas industry. As a result of his efforts, the Tax Cuts and Jobs Act did not repeal any conventional energy tax provisions, including the credit for producing oil and gas from marginal wells, the deductibility of intangible drilling costs (IDCs), taxpayers’ eligibility to take percentage depletion and the designation of certain natural resource related activities as generating qualifying income under the publicly traded partnership rules (PTP). Each of these provisions generates cash flow in the oil and gas industry and are the principal source of investment funds within the industry.

On passage of the legislation, the Kansas Independent Oil and Gas Association commented, “U.S. Senator Pat Roberts (R-KS) is a member of the U.S. Senate Finance Committee and worked tirelessly over much of the last year to protect percentage depletion and IDC tax provisions. Senator Roberts’ leadership and efforts were instrumental in helping retain the percentage depletion and IDC tax provisions in the Senate Finance Committee tax reform bill. Senator Roberts is a true champion for our industry and is far and away the most engaged and best senator to work with on tax reform. There is definitely a true benefit to having a senior senator represent our interests on the U.S. Senate Finance Committee.”

Other areas of the final tax reform bill that Roberts crafted include research and development provisions and the insurance industry title. Senator Roberts has been a longtime supporter of the Orphan Drug Tax Credit, which provides additional tax credits for companies conducting research into drugs and treatments to address rare diseases and conditions. An important part of this program is directed to serious or life-threatening diseases, which primarily affect children. Early versions of the tax reform bill would have fully repealed the Orphan Drug Tax Credit, which was not acceptable to Senator Roberts. In response, Roberts drafted a proposal that was included in the final version of the bill to scale down the credit, but in a manner that will continue to

provide companies a meaningful benefit for this type of research. During discussions over the Senate bill, Roberts made his views on the importance of the credit clear: “We’re talking about drugs for cancer kids, the House completely repealed the orphan drug credit. We took care of a limitation and then restored at least a 27.5 percent credit.”

The Biotechnology Innovation Organization commended Senator Roberts on his efforts to preserve the credit, writing: “On behalf of the Biotechnology Innovation Organization (BIO) and its 1,000 members, I want to thank you for your significant efforts to preserve the Orphan Drug Tax Credit (ODTC) in the Tax Cuts and Jobs Act. As an original sponsor of the Orphan Drug Act (ODA) in 1983, you understand the significance of this matter. Without the ODA, drug developers would not venture into commercially infeasible, small markets and those that suffer from rare diseases would be far worse off than they are today.”

Similarly, the early versions of the House and Senate reform plans would have significantly revised the tax treatment of insurance companies, including life and property insurers. Roberts’ perspective on these issues is that insurance products are critical to providing families and business, including farmers and ranchers, certainty and peace of mind that they will be able to recover from unforeseen and potential calamitous events. The final provisions reflect a balance between overall business tax rate reductions and changes to how insurance companies calculate tax liability to which the new, lower rates apply. This balance in the long-run will lead to lower premium rates for insurance consumers. On passage of the final bill, the American Council of Life Insurance thanked Senator Roberts, “Because of your leadership, the life insurance industry will be able to continue to provide affordable financial and retirement security solutions, that, coupled with tax reform, will enable families to thrive and prosper.”

COMPANIES GIVING KANSANS A RAISE
THANKS TO THE TAX CUTS AND JOBS ACT:

<i>United Bank and Trust</i>	<i>Comcast</i>
<i>Central Bancompany, Inc.</i>	<i>Commerce Bank</i>
<i>Kansas City Southern</i>	<i>Great Western Bancorp, Inc.</i>
<i>Westar Energy</i>	<i>Group 1 Automotive, Inc.</i>
<i>Lawrence Paper Company</i>	<i>Home Depot</i>
<i>Great Southern Bancorp, Inc.</i>	<i>Humana</i>
<i>Wal-Mart</i>	<i>Nationwide Insurance</i>
<i>Verizon</i>	<i>U.S. Bancorp</i>
<i>AT&T</i>	<i>Waste Management, Inc.</i>
<i>Apple</i>	<i>Wells Fargo</i>
<i>Bank of America</i>	<i>Starbucks Coffee Company</i>

According to Americans for Tax Reform: <https://www.ATR.org/list>

ROBERTS.SENATE.GOV

Senator Pat Roberts Tax-Related Accomplishments Timeline

- 2004** Senator Roberts was responsible for the passage of the Emergency Agricultural Disaster Assistance Act, which provides tax relief for producers forced to sell livestock due to weather-related conditions or federal land management agency policy.
- 2007** Senator Roberts secured passage of the Kansas Disaster Tax Relief Assistance Act, which provides a range of individual and business tax relief provisions for taxpayers in disaster zones. The legislation helped the town of Greensburg, Kansas, and other tornado damaged towns recover from catastrophic storms.
- 2008** Senator Roberts secured passage of legislation to ensure that military personnel are eligible tenants under the Low Income Housing Tax Credit.
- 2008** Senator Roberts added the Heartland, Habitat and Horticulture Act to the 2008 Farm Bill. The legislation exempts Conservation Reserve Program payments from self-employment taxes for disabled and retired farmers and ranchers, cutting taxes for these producers by over \$200 million.
- 2015** Senator Roberts' Stop Targeting of Political Beliefs by the IRS Act, which prohibits targeting of conservative social welfare organizations, was included in the 2015 year-end appropriations bill. The Consolidated Appropriations Act (P.L. 114-113) was signed into law on December 18, 2015.
- 2015** Senator Roberts successfully blocked an Internal Revenue Service rule proposal that would call on charities to collect, store and report personal donor information, including Social Security numbers, to the IRS.
- 2015** In December 2015, Roberts' secured a permanent extension of a military housing benefit under the Low Income Housing Tax Credit in the Protecting Americans from Tax Hikes Act (P.L. 114-113).
- 2015** Senator Roberts achieved \$438 billion in tax relief for Kansas and other taxpayers with the enactment of the Protecting Americans from Tax Hikes (PATH) Act (P.L. 114-113), which included a number of provisions that the senator has long championed that were made permanent, including the research and development (R&D) tax credit; Section 179 Property expensing; tax relief for S Corporations from the "built-in gains tax," and deductions for conservation easements. The PATH Act also included critical provisions written by Senator Roberts that allow businesses to write off new equipment and property purchases on a favorable basis.
- 2017** Roberts is appointed to be the leading voice on agriculture issues when writing the tax reform bill on the Senate Finance Committee. The final legislation included Roberts' provisions that will provide certainty to farmers and ranchers.
- 2017** Senator Roberts plays an instrumental role in passage of the historic Tax Cuts and Jobs Act through his role on the Senate Finance Committee. This legislation, now law, includes language crafted by Senator Roberts that would simplify accounting rules and reform key parts of the tax code to help small and medium-sized business owners, including farmers and ranchers, more quickly recover investment costs and certain other tax deductible business expenses. These provisions would encourage new business growth and help existing businesses, including farms and ranches, expand their operations, create new jobs and grow the economy.

Senator Roberts was also successful in including provisions in the final bill that would protect the property and casualty insurance industry from higher tax burdens. These insurers are important to the agricultural industry because they are the primary providers of crop insurance, which is an essential risk management tool for production agriculture. Roberts' efforts prevented new taxes on the industry, which would have been passed on to farmers and ranchers at a time when they are facing reduced commodity prices.



Pensions

Rural Co-op Pension Plans

When hard-working Americans plan for their retirement, it often includes the benefit of a stable pension program. When the rules of a pension program suddenly change, it can put years of retirement planning into serious jeopardy.

That's just what happened to nearly 60,000 employees and retirees of local rural cooperative pension plans.

Co-ops, and small charities, bring multiple employers together so that they can offer a higher quality pension program, allowing risk to be shared among a larger pool of beneficiaries. Unfortunately, in the pension reform debate of 2005-2006, which amended the Employee Retirement Income Security Act (ERISA), Congress focused only on single employer defined benefit plans. The legislation, if enacted, would have swept multiple employer pension plans under the same blanket of regulations that

single employers would be required to follow. Multiple employer pension plans are unique and should have their own set of rules. This would have left rural cooperative pension plans with burdensome overregulation and unstable funding requirements.

Kansas is home to many rural cooperatives. Senator Roberts immediately recognized the danger and disarray for the affected employees and retirees. In 2005, he offered an amendment that was included in the HELP Committee's pension reform bill that recognized the special nature of rural cooperative pension plans by creating a special rule for multiple employer cooperative plans. It was accepted by the committee by unanimous consent.

However, the senator's amendment was not included after Finance and HELP merged their respective pension bills. Rather, a 10-year

delayed-effective date was put into place for co-ops (and later for charities as well). Until 10 years postdate of enactment, the rural co-ops would be managed under Pre-PPA (Pension Protection Act P.L. 109-280) laws.

While that delay was a help, it was not the solution to ensure retirees and future retirees of rural cooperatives or small charities a stable pension future, so Senator Roberts continued to work with the committees and the industry for a permanent fix.

In 2013, Senator Roberts renewed his efforts, working tirelessly with Chairman Tom Harkin (D-IA) to make permanent the delayed effective date. As a member of both the HELP and Finance Committee, the senator communicated and worked through jurisdictional issues and was able to gather support from both committees and both sides of the aisle for the permanent fix. Senator Roberts also worked with the Joint Committee on Tax (JCT) in tandem with Finance to ensure the changes he wanted to make for rural co-ops under ERISA would not negatively impact the IRS code.

After strenuous discussions with all parties, Senator Roberts and Senator Harkin introduced the Cooperative and Small Employer Charity Pension Flexibility Act (S. 1302) in July 2013. The HELP Committee subsequently approved it in October, and the Senate cleared procedural hurdles to pass the bill.

However, because S.1302 touched the tax code via ERISA modifications, Senator Roberts understood the bill had to originate on the House side, so he worked with his colleagues in the other chamber to move it forward. As a result, Congresswoman Susan Brooks (R-IN) introduced Senator Roberts' bill as H.R. 4275. The bill received strong support and was passed in the House, moving it to the president's desk.

In July 2014, Senator Roberts' Cooperative and Small Employer Charity Pension Flexibility Act (CSEC) was signed into law.

Because of his efforts, Jo Anne Emerson, CEO of the National Rural Electric Cooperative Association (NRECA) wrote to Senator Roberts, "You understand how significantly it will positively impact our member's ability to recruit and retain top quality workforce. Our employees are the backbone of our core mission to provide, safe, affordable, and reliable 'at-cost' electricity."

At home, Bruce Graham, CEO of Kansas Electric Cooperatives, wrote, "Thank you for your consistent leadership on so many issues affecting rural electric cooperatives. Your support has been critical to our success....Thank you for your leadership in introducing S.1302 for Kansas co-ops and all co-ops nationally."

Senator Roberts' pension legislation ensures that thousands of retirees and future retirees will have secure income in their senior years.

Treece Remediation

For most of the early part of the 20th century, the southeast corner of Kansas was a boom town, its prosperity coming from land rich in lead, zinc and iron ore. Part of a vast mining district where Kansas, Missouri and Oklahoma meet, Treece and its twin city across the Oklahoma state line, Picher, became the unofficial capitals of a zone that in its heyday produced more than \$20 billion worth of ore—much of it used for weaponry to fight World Wars I and II.

But when the last of the mines closed in the 1970s, Treece was left sitting on a toxic waste dump of lead-laced dust, contaminated



Toxic underground mine tailings, called "chat," and other debris littering the roads in and around Treece.

soil and sinkholes. The state line between Treece and Picher, the larger of the two towns, once home to 20,000 people and separated from Treece by only a gravel road, became part of adjacent Superfund sites that the Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) had been trying to clean since the 1980s.

In Picher, the remediation of the land proved daunting. In a move without many precedents, the federal government decided to buy out and relocate nearly the entire population, which had dwindled to 1,800 by the year 2000. The buy-out left a ghost town where the social and economic hub of the area used to be. Unfortunately, the buy-out stopped at the Oklahoma line. Treece remained similarly contaminated, but was not allowed to take part in the same buy-out program.

Then, in April of 2009, EPA Region 7 issued a press release saying Cherokee County, Kansas, would receive up to \$25 million in stimulus funds. According to the press release, “By starting or speeding up cleanup at Superfund sites, [stimulus] funding is also increasing the speed with which these sites are returned to productive use. When a Superfund site is redeveloped, it can offer significant economic benefits to local communities including future job creation.”

However, with fewer than 100 residents living in the city of Treece, Senator Roberts believed that the stimulus funding for this project would literally be going down a sinking hole.

Senator Roberts likened the strategy to “throwing a fancy rug over a hole in the floor.” He believed that it would be more efficient to move the people, which would cost an estimated \$3.5 million. Nonetheless, the EPA claimed that it



Senator Roberts outside of Treece City Hall with former State Representative Doug Gatewood and his wife following tours of the area.

could accomplish a soil cleansing process within 10 years and that Treece residents would remain safe in the meantime.

At that time, The Wichita Eagle wrote, “Credit Sen. Pat Roberts, R-Kan., for trying to make things right for the people of Treece, whose town in the far southeast corner of Kansas was trashed by a century of lead and zinc mining. The rest of the Kansas delegation should join his fight. The state should help in any way it can. Roberts is in full bulldog mode.” (7/2/09).

Compelled to take his case to the highest levels of government, Senator Roberts seized an opportunity to bring the potential waste of stimulus dollars to Vice President Joe Biden’s attention during a visit to Overland Park where he was promoting the use of federal stimulus money to improve U.S. Highway 69. The two also discussed the issue in detail by phone.

Disagreeing with the EPA’s initial approach, Senator Roberts introduced legislation in the 110th Congress that authorized the agency to give the state of Kansas \$6 million for a voluntary buy-out of properties and for other relocation purposes. “This is a major step forward for

the community of Treece,” Senator Roberts said. “Without the EPA’s assistance, residents of Treece may not be able to voluntarily relocate to another town of their choosing, while they continue to face daily safety concerns. They deserve safety and stability.”

In order to keep the pressure on the EPA, Senator Roberts also sent a letter inviting Administrator Jackson to Treece and continued his call for a buy-out of residents before taxpayer dollars could be wasted by remediating topsoil in an area full of sinkholes that threatened human life.

In the letter, Roberts said, “To reiterate, I support your Agency’s mission ‘to protect human health and the environment.’ In order to fully reach this mission in Treece, it is necessary to first relocate the 100 inhabitants and then complete any necessary environmental restoration of the landscape. Using stimulus money to re-mediate soil that will collapse on itself, with young children living nearby, is unacceptable. I urge you to utilize \$3 million in stimulus funds to voluntarily relocate those living in Treece.”

At a hearing of the U.S. Senate Committee on Agriculture, Senator Roberts pressed EPA Administrator Lisa Jackson to accept his invitation to visit Treece so she could see firsthand the dangerous conditions in the town and the unwise use of taxpayer stimulus dollars to remediate top soil. EPA officials later accepted the invitation and toured Treece to assess the dire situation for the citizens there and witness what the senator had seen for himself during multiple visits.

The Wichita Eagle commented on August 16, 2009: “Good for Sen. Pat Roberts, R-Kan., for coaxing the Environmental Protection Agency to send three top officials to Treece, the southeast Kansas community hopelessly contaminated by waste from lead and zinc mining. Their plan to visit Thursday doesn’t guarantee a federal rescue for the 100 remaining residents. But it seems likely that seeing the devastation will lead the EPA officials to believe as Roberts and others do, that a \$3 million buyout would be stimulus money well spent.”

During the 111th Congress, the Senate approved

an amendment to provide the Environmental Protection Agency the authority to buy out Treece, Kansas. Senator Roberts, then-Senator Brownback and Senator Inhofe (R-OK) introduced the amendment that was accepted by voice vote to the Fiscal Year 2010 Interior Appropriations Bill.

“These folks have no other way out of this dangerous situation,” Roberts said. “I am pleased the Senate has approved this necessary step in order to create a framework for a potential buyout. I look forward to working with the EPA to try and address the special hardship facing these residents.”

The EPA would use the authority granted by the Senator Roberts amendment to formalize an agreement with the state of Kansas in 2010 over the relocation of Treece residents, putting the Kansas Department of Health and Environment in charge of the project. Senator Roberts applauded the agreement saying, “I am pleased the EPA is moving ahead with their plans to bring real relief to residents of Treece.”

An article from the Lawrence Journal-World quoted then-Treece Mayor Bill Blunt calling it a victory. He praised lawmakers, particularly Roberts, for making it happen: “They did exceptional work,” Blunt said in a phone interview from Treece. “Sen. Roberts would not let it rest until he finally turned some heads his way to get the things he wanted.”

The Winfield Daily Courier wrote on October 30, 2009, “Sen. Pat Roberts deserves credit for winning the battle of Treece. Rep. Lynn Jenkins and Sens. Sam Brownback and James Inhofe, R-Okla., share in the credit. It was Roberts, however, who shined the spotlight on Treece, the town of about 100 on the Oklahoma border...Pat Roberts’ persistence and his flare for the front page have made this happen. He often gets what he goes after. We hope the people of Treece are pleased with what Roberts has done.”

All buy-out activities in the community of Treece were concluded on May 22, 2014, with the disbandment of the Treece Relocation Assistance Trust.

Seniors

Older Americans Act/Senior Nutrition Programs

Many communities in Kansas have aging populations. For that reason, Senator Roberts has been a long-time supporter of the Older Americans Act (OAA), and in particular, senior nutrition programs like Meals on Wheels. It is important to provide critical support for the nation's senior citizens, and the OAA provides the funds and the tools to ensure that seniors, and those that care for them, will have the support necessary to ensure their well-being.

In 2006, Congress passed legislation to reauthorize the OAA, providing funding for state and community programs on aging, mental health services, community service employment programs and prevention of elder abuse. Under the law, funding formulas were adjusted for states with growing aging populations.

In 2007, Roberts introduced legislation to preserve the way some states, including Kansas, acquire commodities for their senior nutrition programs. At issue was language from the 2006 reauthorization of the OAA that would have prevented seven states, including Kansas, from receiving donated commodities from the U.S. Department of Agriculture. These states would have been forced to use a commercial vendor or go through a school lunch authority program, which Kansas does not have.

States like Kansas would have been penalized if they were forced to use a commercial vendor to purchase commodities, and they would have had to spend more money for the same quality of food. Senator Roberts led the effort to amend the OAA to allow states to continue to receive donated commodities. Passage of this provision was critical, permitting Kansas to continue operating their successful senior nutrition programs.



Senator Roberts delivers meals on wheels in Topeka.

Senator Roberts has been frequently recognized for his efforts on behalf of seniors. Sharon Geiss, Executive Director, Mid-America Nutrition Program, Inc. said, "I wanted to thank you for your help in restoring the commodities program to senior nutrition programs in Kansas. The commodities have been a huge benefit to our programs as we provide Meals on Wheels to Seniors across Kansas" (4/2/07).

He was further commended by Enid Borden, CEO, and Jane Metzger, President of the Board, from Meals on Wheels when they said, "Thank you for your extraordinary leadership. Because of your actions, thousands of seniors, many of whom might not otherwise have been served, will be able to receive nutritious meals in the coming year. Working together we are moving closer to achieving our mission 'so no senior goes hungry,' and it is our sincere hope that we can continue to collaborate with you and your office on issues of importance to Meals on Wheels programs" (4/8/07).

The USDA's Food and Nutrition Service (FNS) was tasked with determining how bonus commodities would be distributed among the various programs. Unfortunately, in 2009, FNS issued a decision stating that senior nutrition programs would no longer receive bonus commodities. The USDA FNS decision that senior nutrition programs would no longer be given priority to receive bonus commodities did not align with the legislation passed in 2007.

In response to the decision, in November 2009, Senator Roberts led a bipartisan group of senators in writing to USDA to urge the reinstatement of senior nutrition programs' ability to receive bonus commodities. In response, USDA said that they plan to give some bonus commodities to senior nutrition programs but only after distribution is awarded to other nutrition programs.

To highlight the importance of these programs to Kansas seniors, in May 2010, Senator Roberts

personally invited then-Under Secretary Concanon to Kansas to see the impact of Meals on Wheels on local communities. Programs like Meals on Wheels rely on both surplus and bonus commodities to better serve our nation's seniors, especially in rural areas. Bonus commodities are essentially free of charge, plus the price of shipping.

Following Senator Roberts' successful work on behalf of seniors, on July 1, 2010, Peggy Ingraham, Senior VP for Public Policy, Meals on Wheels Association of America, in an address to their members said, "What there is no question about is Senator Roberts' dedication to you and your programs, his determination and his effectiveness in supporting your work. If you have a chance to see him when he is back in Kansas over the August recess, I hope that you will thank him personally. If you don't, I hope that you will take the time to write him a note of thanks."

Housing

USDA Rural Housing



Senator and Mrs. Roberts tour the new home of Megan Estrada and her three kids; Jacqueline, Joanna and Jonathan in Dodge City.

strong housing market is critical to our state's economic development, and it bolsters the families and communities of rural Kansas. For that reason, Senator Roberts championed a provision to ensure qualified homebuyers in towns in rural America have access to affordable housing.

In June 2012, the Senate passed S. 3240, the Agriculture Reform, Food and Jobs Act. During debate on the bill, Ranking Member Roberts cosponsored Senate Amendment 2242, which amended the Housing Act of 1949 to extend rules relating to the qualification requirements for rural housing assistance. The amendment was approved by unanimous consent and

was included in the final legislation that passed the Senate. In addition, in April 2013, Senator Roberts and Banking Committee Chairman Johnson (D-SD) introduced S. 766, legislation to

Access to affordable housing is vital to the development of our rural communities. In the Senate, Senator Roberts has made it a priority to fight daily on behalf of rural America. Maintaining a

address the qualification requirements for rural housing assistance.

Prior to enactment of the senator's provision, Dodge City, Garden City and Liberal weren't considered rural enough to access USDA home loan programs. Buying or building a home in a rural area presents unique challenges, and the USDA's rural housing programs have helped make responsible homeownership a reality for countless families.

Senator Roberts' legislation overturned the USDA's purely subjective standard by grandfathering in, until 2020, currently eligible communities that meet the population threshold. His bill also raised the population cap from 25,000 to 35,000.

As a result of Senator Roberts' efforts, the rural housing language was included in the Farm Bill Conference report that Congress approved and was signed into law in February 2014. The legislation allows qualified homebuyers to obtain loans with minimal closing costs and no down payment. This important housing language is already making a huge difference for the rural communities in Kansas.

After enactment of Senator Roberts' language, USDA Rural Development (RD) determined that Dodge City, Garden City and Lansing are eligible for the USDA housing programs. The

communities of Andover, Gardner, Hays, Junction City, Liberal, Ottawa and Pittsburg will also remain eligible due to the provision.

Senator Roberts' rural housing provision is already benefiting communities like Dodge City, Garden City, Liberal, Hays and several others qualify for housing loans and grants. As our rural communities continue to grow, so do their housing needs, and this legislation will help them remain eligible to receive assistance.

Since the inclusion, the loans have made a huge difference in the counties in southwest Kansas. In fact, in just over a year, the program already helped more than 144 new homeowners in southwest Kansas.



At Sheltered Living in Topeka, Senator Roberts receives the Chester A. Sterling Friend of Housing Award from the Federal Home Loan Bank of Topeka on the 20th anniversary of their affordable housing program.

Low-Income Housing Tax Credit

Our nation's military families should have access to safe, affordable housing no matter where they live. For that reason, in 2007, Senator Roberts introduced the Military Access to Housing Act of 2007 (S. 839), legislation to provide more housing choices to our men and women in uniform.

At the time, a number of military installations across the country were experiencing housing shortages. The relocation of troops as a result of the Base Realignment and Closure (BRAC) Commission recommendations exacerbated this problem. Military personnel who live off their post or base receive a "basic allowance for housing" — supplemental funds which they may use toward rent in private developments.

Unfortunately, under the tax code, the basic allowance excluded some military families from private developments financed with the Low-Income Housing Tax Credit (LIHTC). Tenants qualify for lower-cost LIHTC housing if their income does not exceed a certain percent of the average county income. Under LIHTC guidelines, the basic allowance is counted as part of a service member's net household income, meaning a military family may qualify for this housing in one county, but be considered ineligible in a neighboring county. Senator Roberts saw this as unfair for military families who live further away from their post or base. This inconsistency placed an unnecessary hardship on enlisted personnel and their mission.



The basic allowance is not disposable income. Service members cannot use the basic allowance for anything other than housing and, as a result, the basic allowance is not considered taxable income and is not a factor when service members apply for the Earned Income Tax Credit. Likewise, the senator believed it should not be counted as income when service members apply to live in LIHTC housing.

As has been seen with the growth of troops at

Fort Riley, more military families have been forced to live further away from the post, some as far as Salina and Topeka in order to find decent and affordable housing. Especially in Geary County, where affordable housing is in high demand and more military families are being stationed at Fort Riley, this provision is vital.

Military personnel deserve housing choices. Senator Roberts' common sense legislation removed the basic allowance from salary computation for LIHTC housing. The legislation allowed more enlisted personnel to qualify, and will provide an incentive to build more housing around military bases.

Since enactment of the original provision, Senator Roberts has made sure that the military housing benefit has been extended. He also pushed for it to be made a permanent part of the tax code.

In December 2015, Roberts successfully secured a permanent extension of the military housing benefit in the Protecting Americans from Tax Hikes Act (P.L. 114-113), which also includes many other tax provisions that Senator Roberts has long championed.

Immigration

USCIS Mobile Immigration Services

While representing Kansas, Senator Roberts has stood firm on the principle that any discussion of immigration reform must begin with securing our border to stop the influx of illegal immigrants entering our country. Closer to home, Senator Roberts has communicated the immigration needs of Kansas communities to U.S. Citizenship and Immigration Services (USCIS) and successfully brought mobile immigration services to southwest Kansas.

There are many individuals living in Kansas who are in the process of legally navigating the U.S. immigration system. However, due to the location of the closest USCIS office in Wichita, many of these same individuals do not have the means or transportation to travel and receive the necessary services offered by USCIS—causing them to

revert to illegal status.

Beginning in 2007, Senator Roberts contacted USCIS and requested that they survey the need for immigration services in southwest Kansas. The 2010 census data showed the Hispanic population had grown by 59 percent and accounted for over 10 percent of the population in Kansas. The greatest growth was found in southwest Kansas. These statistics further justified the need for immigration services closer to southwest Kansas.

While USCIS agreed that there was a need for immigration services, funding constraints suspended travel for USCIS employees in 2013.

Determined to not let the lack of funds be a setback, Senator Roberts turned to three southwest Kansas communities, Dodge City, Liberal

and Garden City, and began formulating a proposal to create a local and federal partnership to bring mobile immigration service to southwest Kansas. These communities offered to provide the location, security, technology and volunteers needed to offer mobile immigration interviews and biometrics fingerprint appointments.

In 2014, USCIS accepted this proposal and began working with the communities on the pilot program. The first mobile immigration services were held in June 2014, offering 250 biometric appointments and 75 interviews in Dodge City over three days.

Following USCIS's mobile service announcement, the Dodge City Globe highlighted Senator Roberts' work on the project: "After more than three years of pitching the idea of a revolving agent, and with the help of local service organizations,

businesses and Sen. Pat Roberts' office, the immigration service will hold its first session in Dodge City from June 17 through June 19."

Since the first mobile services, the pilot program has expanded to a two week program rotating locations between Dodge City, Liberal and Garden City. In 2015, the first naturalization ceremony was held in Dodge City, where 57 individuals became U.S. citizens.

Bringing mobile immigration services to southwest Kansas and ensuring those legally navigating the immigration system stay in compliance is an important step toward fixing problems within the U.S. immigration system.

In 2017, USCIS announced plans to increase the frequency of biometric appointments in southwest Kansas in addition to the mobile services.



Bob Dole Congressional Gold Medal Act

On January 17, 2018, the Speaker of the House, the Majority Leader of the Senate, President Trump and Vice President Pence honored Kansas' favorite son, U.S. Senator Bob Dole, by presenting him with the Congressional Gold Medal in recognition of his service to the nation as a soldier, legislator and statesman.

Senator Roberts introduced the Bob Dole Congressional Gold Medal Act, on July 24, 2017, and within 36 hours was able to secure unprecedented support for legislation awarding the Gold Medal to Senator Dole. All 100 senators signed onto the bill as cosponsors underscoring the respect earned by Senator Dole in a lifetime of public service.

On introducing the bill, Senator Roberts noted, "I have joined Congresswoman Lynn Jenkins and the rest of the Kansas congressional delegation in introducing a bill to award Senator Bob Dole the

Congressional Gold Medal. The Congressional Gold Medal is the highest expression of national appreciation for distinguished achievements and contributions and the highest civilian honor given by the Congress.

"Bob Dole has dedicated his life to public service. He is a soldier, a legislator, a leader and a statesman. I can think of no person more deserving of this award than my friend and mentor and Kansas' favorite son, Robert J. Dole'."

Senator Dole thanked the sponsors of the legislation, "I am highly honored that the Senate unanimously passed legislation earlier today to award me the Congressional Gold Medal. I am particularly grateful to my good friends, Senator Pat Roberts and Congresswoman Lynn Jenkins, for their extraordinary efforts in advancing this very meaningful legislation."





Eisenhower Memorial Commission

Congress authorized a memorial to be built on the National Mall to Kansas' favorite son, President and General Dwight D. Eisenhower in 1999. Senator Roberts was appointed to be an original member of the Eisenhower Memorial Commission (EMC).

Since the commission's first meeting in 2001, Senator Roberts has worked diligently toward dedicating an appropriate memorial to the man who saved western democracy and brought eight years of peace and prosperity to the United States.

The journey to create the memorial faced many hurdles. All the commissioners, including David Eisenhower, unanimously approved the chosen design by architect Frank Gehry. However, soon after its approval, several other members of the Eisenhower family raised objections, and the project stalled. David Eisenhower eventually resigned from the commission to avoid further family discord.

As a long-time friend of the Eisenhower family and a prominent Kansan himself, Senator Roberts became the chief negotiator between the EMC and the Eisenhower family. Over the course of several years, he spent hours trying to resolve design and funding concerns among the fractured parties.

In the midst of his efforts, the design received all of the necessary national approvals for construction. It was a heralding accomplishment, which opened the door for a new phase of work and new leadership at the EMC. The commission turned to Senator Roberts to take charge.

In April 2015, Senator Roberts was unanimously elected as Chairman of the EMC to see the design through construction to completion. As part of his vision, he immediately started to buoy up the Advisory Committee. Under Roberts' leadership, the Advisory Committee grew to include every former president, vice president, Secretary of

State, as well as numerous other prominent Americans. He also tapped Senator Bob Dole to be the National Finance Committee Chair, giving a much needed boost to the private fundraising efforts.

The increased fundraising effort and prominence of the Advisory Committee opened the door to resolving some of the family's concerns regarding the design. In the summer of 2016, the Eisenhower family agreed to embark on new negotiations over some slight design modifications.

In September 2016, a compromise was reached. Advisory Committee member and former Secretary of State James Baker, III, arbitrated a design compromise with the Eisenhower family and the EMC under Roberts. As part of the changes, a representation of a "peaceful" Normandy coastline as it exists today was added to the memorial, along with a statue of young Ike containing his famous quote, "The proudest thing I can claim is that I am from Abilene."

A year later, the design had been through all the necessary approvals once again. Chairman Roberts

personally shepherded the modifications for final approval from the Commission on Fine Arts. He also personally met with Secretary of the Interior Ryan Zinke to guarantee his vote for the final design with the National Capital Planning Commission.

As a result of Chairman Roberts' tireless efforts, the groundbreaking for the National Dwight D. Eisenhower Memorial was held on November 2, 2017. It was attended by nearly 500 people who all celebrated the 18-year long achievement.

Of the groundbreaking, the Wichita Eagle editorial board wrote, "U.S. Sen. Pat Roberts was key in helping the memorial become a reality." That sentiment was reiterated throughout the groundbreaking ceremony by various participants. In her remarks, Susan Eisenhower addressed Chairman Roberts, "Honestly, Senator Roberts, this would not have happened without you."

Construction for the memorial is scheduled to be completed so that it can be dedicated on the 75th anniversary of VE day, May 8, 2020.



Key Awards by Topic

Senator Roberts has been honored by state, local, national and international organizations throughout his entire Senate career. While too numerous to list, the following awards are some of the key commendations received across a variety of topic areas.

Agriculture

- ★ **Agriculture Future of American Leadership in Agriculture Award:** 2002.
- ★ **Agriculture Business Council of Kansas City J. B. Dillingham Award:** 2011.
- ★ **Kansas Corn Association and Commission “Kansas Corn” award “Ear of Agriculture”:** 2012.
- ★ **National Corn Growers Award:** July 2007.
- ★ **International Foodservice Distributors Association, Thomas Jefferson Award:** Multiple congresses.
- ★ **Friend of the Farm Bureau:** Multiple congresses.
- ★ **Farm Bureau Golden Plow Award:** 1996.
- ★ **National Association of Wheat Growers (NAWG) Wheat Advocate:** Multiple congresses.
- ★ **NAWG Wheat Leader of the Year:** 1999.
- ★ **Kansas Association of Wheat, Man of the Year:** 1993.
- ★ **American Meat Institute, Richard E. Lyng Public Service Award:** 1995.
- ★ **Progressive Farmer, Man of the Year Award:** 1997.
- ★ **American Bakers Association, Bakers Dozen Award:** 2015.
- ★ **Kansas Soybean Commission Friend of Soy Award:** 2013.
- ★ **American Soybean Association, Champion of Soy Award:** 2014.
- ★ **Crop Insurance Reinsurance Bureau (CIRB) Chairman's Award:** 2014.
- ★ **Growth Energy's Award:** For being a champion for the biofuels industry, multiple congresses.
- ★ **American Agri-Women, Champion of Agriculture Award:** 2011.
- ★ **Honorary Individual Member:** CropLife America, 2016.

Aviation

- ★ **Aircraft Owners and Pilots Association (AOPA) Joseph B. Hartranft Jr. Award:** For Senator Roberts’ tireless advocacy of General Aviation: 2007.
- ★ **Wings of Liberty Award, Aerospace Industry Association:** 2001.

Bio/Science Tech/STEM

- ★ **BIO Legislator of the Year Award:** Senator Roberts was honored by the Biotechnology Industry Organization for his support of strong investment in biotechnology and scientific research. BIO represents thousands of companies across the nation. 2004, 2016.
- ★ **Navigator Award, Potomac Institute for Policy Studies:** For support of science and technology policies, 2002.

- ★ **Kansas Starbase, Flame of Freedom:** 1999.
- ★ **Champion of Science Award from the Science Coalition (Wheaties box award):** 2013.
- ★ **Lawrence Technology Association Tech Camp of the Year Award:** 2001.

Business

- ★ **Kansas World Trade Center:** For support of international trade in Kansas.
- ★ **Chamber of Commerce Spirit of Enterprise Award:** Based on vote rankings friendly to the business community, Senator Roberts has earned this award multiple times during his tenure in the Senate.
- ★ **National Federation of Independent Businesses “Guardian of Small Business Award”:** Senator Roberts has earned this award every session of congress since 1981.
- ★ **Associated Building and Contractors Champion of the Merit Shop:** 1999-2015.
- ★ **National Association of Manufacturing, Manufacturing Legislative Excellence Award:** Multiple congresses.
- ★ **Kansas Municipal Utilities Fred D.Diehl Award:** For advancement of municipal utilities in Kansas, 2012.
- ★ **Hero of Main Street from National Retail Federation:** Multiple congresses.
- ★ **CEI (Competitive Enterprise Institute) Champion of the Worker award:** Multiple congresses.
- ★ **FHLBank Topeka Honors United States Senator Pat Roberts as a Friend of Housing:** 2007.

Conservation

- ★ **Pheasants Forever Honors Roberts:** For support of the Conservation Reserve Program, multiple years.
- ★ **Conservator of the Year Award from the Kansas Wildlife Federation and the National Wildlife Federation:** For work on Conservation Reserve Program, 2000.

Conservative

- ★ **Americans for Tax Reform:** Recognized for support of tax relief and reform, multiple congresses.
- ★ **Watchdog of the Treasury Award:** Multiple congresses.
- ★ **60 Plus Association “Guardian of Senior Rights” and “Benjamin Franklin Award”:** For his work on repealing the death tax, 2014.
- ★ **114th Congress Tax Fighter Award:** National Tax-Limitation Committee in appreciation of leadership on behalf of America’s taxpayers.

Education

- ★ **TRIO Appreciation:** For the significant impact on expanding opportunities for low income and first generation college students, 2008.
- ★ **YouthFriends Leadership in Mentoring Award:** 2004 (Inaugural award).
- ★ **Building Bridges Award, Wichita State University TRIO:** For commitment to educating students, 2011.

Family/Life Issues

- ★ **True Blue Award, Family Research Council:** For staying true to pro-family and pro-life values, 2002, 2016.
- ★ **Kaw Valley Center, Children's Service Award:** In appreciation for contributions to the lives of children and families, 2001.
- ★ **Kansans for Life, Certificate of Appreciation:** 2014.

Health Care

- ★ **Health Super Hero Award:** From the National Association of Health Centers, 2007.
- ★ **U.S. Oncology Cancer Care Leadership Award**
- ★ **Distinguished Community Health Superhero Award from the National Association of Community Health Centers:** 2009.
- ★ **Outstanding Service Award, American Congress of Community Supports and Employment Services:** For promoting and enhancing community-based solutions that maximize employment and independent living opportunities for people with disabilities, 2010.
- ★ **Legislative Award, National Rural Health Association:** 2001.
- ★ **Kansas Home Care Association, Home Care Hero Honoree of Year:** 2008.
- ★ **Kansas Hospital Association Distinguished Health Advocate Award:** 2007.
- ★ **American Ambulance Association Legislative Recognition Award:** 2011-2015.
- ★ **Champion of Healthcare Innovation:** Healthcare Leadership Council, 2016.
- ★ **Medicare Advantage Champion:** Coalition for Medicare Choices, 2016.
- ★ **Advocate of the Year Award:** Home Instead Senior Care, 2016.
- ★ **Ambulance Drivers Legislator of the Year Award:** 2016
- ★ **** Prevent Cancer Foundation, Congressional Families Leadership Award to Franki Roberts:** For her work in the Congressional Families Cancer Prevention Program. Since 1996, Franki and Senator Roberts have been the honorary co-chairs of the Hutchinson Clinic/Prevent Cancer Foundation's cancer prevention and wellness booth at the Kansas State Fair. Franki was honored along with Pulitzer Prize winning author Dr. Siddhartha Mukherjee (author of "The Emperor of All Maladies: A Biography of Cancer") and Food Network star Sandra Lee, 2015.

National Security

- ★ **Kansas Emergency Management Award for Outstanding Service:** 2006.
- ★ **G.V. Sonny Montgomery Award for Outstanding Contributions to the National Guard:** 2001.
- ★ **Outstanding Civilian Service Medal, Department of the Army:** 2007-2009, from General Caldwell.
- ★ **Association of Defense Communities 2013 Congressional Leader Award:** For Senator Roberts work on Parsons, 2013.
- ★ **Ft. Leavenworth Dedicated "Senator Pat Roberts Room" at Lewis and Clark Center:** 2010.
- ★ **National Security Award from the Kansas City Businesses for National Security:** 2011.
- ★ **CIA Director Michael V. Hayden presented the Agency Seal Medal:** To Senator Roberts in recognition of his 10 years of service as a member and chairman of the Senate Select Committee on Intelligence. The medal is awarded to people outside the Agency who have made significant contributions to the work of CIA, 2007.

- ★ **Manhattan Chamber of Commerce in Appreciation to Sen Pat Roberts for your leadership in returning The Big Red One to Fort Riley:** 2006.

Nutrition/Hunger

- ★ **Food Research and Action Center:** In appreciation of extraordinary leadership in fighting hunger, 2002.
- ★ **World Food Program Leadership in the Fight Against Hunger Award:** Due to the senator's efforts to support international feeding programs, particularly the Dole/McGovern International School Lunch program, 2004.
- ★ **Meals on Wheels National Leadership Award:** Besides Senator Roberts, this award has only been given one other time in 35 years, 2008.
- ★ **Bill Emerson and Mickey Leland Hunger Leadership Award:** Congressional Hunger Center, 2016.
- ★ **No Kid Hungry Hero Award:** No Kid Hungry, 2016.
- ★ **Hunger Leadership Award:** Congressional Hunger Center, in recognition of bipartisan efforts to reauthorize child nutrition programs.
- ★ **National WIC Association Leadership Award:** National WIC Association, 2015-2016.

MISC.

- ★ **Award for Government Service and Civility:** Received the John Chafee Award from the Main Street Partnership for his focus on finding good governance and on finding common sense solutions to national problems, 2003.
- ★ **Eisenhower Leadership Award:** The award from the Eisenhower Institute is given to those that advance Pres. Eisenhower's leadership legacies in foreign and domestic policies. The senator was honored by senators Hagel, Stevens, Inouye, and Joint Chiefs Chairman USAF Gen. Richard Meyers, 2004.
- ★ **Philip R. Lewis Medal of Distinction, Kansas Bar Association:** 2007.
- ★ **Honorary Dodge City Marshall:** 2008.
- ★ **Golden Gavel Award from Senate Majority Leader Trent Lott:** For acting as the presiding officer for over 100 hours. Received in both 106th Congress and 105th Congress.
- ★ **The Governor Samuel J Crawford Silver Stirrup Award:** For dedicated leadership and meritorious service to the team. Kansas Calvary: June 11, 2013.
- ★ **KPTA Appreciation Award: In appreciation for outstanding Service to Kansas Public Transportation.** Presented by the KS Public Transit Association, 2000.
- ★ **Champion of Transportation, Wichita Central Corridor Project:** 2010.
- ★ **Kansas Recyclers Association, Inc., Outstanding National Government Leadership Award:** 1996.
- ★ **MARS Incorporated Legislative Champion:** 2016.
- ★ **Distinguished Service Award:** Center for the National Interest, 2016.

Senator Roberts, Working for Kansans

Constituent Services

As a member of the U.S. Senate, Pat Roberts dedicates many hours to drafting, considering and voting on federal legislation that affects Kansans as well as the entire country. But his duties in the U.S. Capitol do not overshadow his commitment to maintaining his accessibility to the Kansans he serves.

Toward that end, Senator Roberts maintains four offices in the state: Overland Park, Topeka, Wichita and Dodge City. These offices provide constituents with an opportunity to interact directly with him and his staff and to more easily share their views and concerns.

His staff also provides research services on a wide range of federal topics and issues, and provides congressional reports to students, agencies, companies, non-profit organizations and civic minded individuals. His Washington staff offers tours of the Capitol and arranges a firsthand look at the White House, Supreme Court, Arlington National Cemetery and other points of historic interest. During his Senate service, he has congratulated more than 2,000 new Eagle Scouts, 500 Gold Award recipients, and has acknowledged countless birthdays, anniversaries and important milestones in the lives of Kansans across the state.

As a U.S. Marine, Senator Roberts has a deep rooted respect for our military's past, and an unending commitment to its robust future. With this in mind, he and his staff have interviewed almost 6,800 military academy hopefuls for appointments to the U.S. Military Academy, the U.S. Naval Academy, the U.S. Air Force Academy, the U.S. Coast Guard Academy and the U.S. Merchant Marine Academy, hundreds of whom have received appointments and gone on to serve our county.

But most important, his state staff functions to safeguard Kansans' first amendment right "to petition the government for a redress of grievances." Senator Roberts' staff works with the Internal Revenue Service, State Department, Social Security, Veterans Administration, Federal Trade Administration, Federal Crop Insurance Corporation and many other departments and agencies to ensure that Kansans receive fair treatment from the federal government. To date, his office has assisted nearly 19,000 constituents obtain Social Security, VA, Medicare, retirement and other benefits, services and hearings to which they were entitled.

Following are just a few stories of the Kansans Senator Roberts and his staff have had the privilege to serve.

Casework Narratives

Overcoming Health Care Obstacles

In 2015, Senator Roberts' received a request from a constituent whose coverage had been terminated by her health insurance carrier because they had no record of proof of her legal residence or U.S. citizenship. After submitting the requested documentation twice, she began receiving denials of medical bills because there was still no record of her having submitted the required documentation. Her accounts were subsequently referred for

collection. She was very upset because she had been in the hospital for five days and the charges were quite substantial. After obtaining a privacy release, Senator Roberts contacted the liaison at the health care exchange and submitted the required documents on her behalf. Her legal status was properly entered into the system, her insurance was reinstated and back dated, and her medical bills were paid.

In another case, a mother of a Social Security disability recipient contacted Senator Roberts' office to obtain assistance in getting her son's Medicare Part D reinstated. Her son needed the prescription benefit because he required regular medication to treat the effects of a traumatic brain

injury. The senator's staff immediately contacted Centers for Medicare and Medicaid Services to initiate an inquiry into the reason the benefit had been stopped. CMS investigated and determined that an error had been made and the prescription benefit was reinstated just a few days later.

Assisting Those Who Served

I. Senate Roberts was contacted by a gentleman with stage four terminal cancer who was frantic to complete his funeral arrangements so that his wife would not be burdened with the task after his death. He needed a copy of his Army discharge so that he could complete arrangements for a military funeral. He did not have access to a computer and was not well enough to come into the office so Senator Roberts' staff went to his home to obtain a signed privacy release from him. The office then contacted the liaison at the National Personnel Records Center who was able to process the expedited request in one day and sent the documentation out the next day. The constituent was extremely grateful that the office had been so responsive and was able to relieve his wife of the burden of planning his funeral.

II. In 2016, Senator Roberts was contacted by a veteran who was receiving a disability benefit from the Veterans Administration. When her monthly check was not deposited into her account on the first of the month, she contacted her bank and learned she had been the victim of identity theft. Senator Roberts was able to contact the VA and

assist in an expedite of a replacement benefit. Within one week of her initial contact with the Roberts' office, she had a replacement benefit.

III. The son of a fallen World War II veteran contacted Senator Roberts' office regarding his father's military records. The son knew very little about his father and was very interested in hearing about his dad's service in the Air Force. The constituent had only a few photos of his father as well as his military discharge. The senator's office worked with the United States Air Force to research his father's service. The Air Force was able to provide a DVD of the general orders awarding his father the Bronze Star & Air Medal as well as Fighter Group & Fighter Squadron WWII histories.

IV. George Hall, a veteran of the U.S. Navy

sought Senator Roberts' help in pursuing a claim for post-traumatic stress disorder. Mr. Hall's claim had attracted the attention of the Topeka Capital-Journal due to the intentional efforts of federal and state veteran agency officials to deny Mr. Hall his legal right of appeal. Senator Roberts' staff contacted the Board of Appeals and exposed the agencies' unethical efforts, which ultimately resulted in the awarding of Mr. Hall's rightful disability benefit. His staff also notified top VA officials about the mishandling of Mr. Hall's claim to ensure that other veterans could trust the integrity of the disability process.



'VETERAN WINS FIGHT OF HIS LIFE'

-AUGUST 20, 2011 cjonline.com

*Veteran Wins Fight of His Life: Veteran George Hall, 67, came to Senator Roberts' State Casework Director Kay Sharp for help on a daunting dispute with the Department of Veterans Affairs over a disability claim. The **Topeka Capital-Journal** reports, "He credits the closure to Sharp's direct involvement, her willingness to absorb details of his 3-foot-thick file and clarity she offered when highlighting the VA's approach to his appeals. "She championed my case," Hall said. "Without Kay Sharp, I would have never won this claim."*

Cutting Through the Red Tape

I. Senator Roberts received a call from a constituent who was acting power of attorney for two elderly siblings whose brother had died. The deceased was a retired federal employee who had been receiving an annuity. Because he had no immediate family at the time of his death, his sisters were his closest relatives and, therefore, entitled to this death benefit. One sibling was 85, the other was 87. At the time Senator Roberts was contacted the backlog for processing death benefit claims was almost 20 months. The constituents were hoping Senator Roberts would be able to expedite their claim due to their advanced ages. Staff contacted the liaison at the Office of Personnel Management and was able to obtain expedited consideration of their claim. The beneficiaries received almost \$70,000 in death benefits, which was a great help in paying for their care in an assisted living facility.

II. Senator Roberts was contacted by a constituent's husband and power of attorney regarding a Social Security disability benefit. The constituent had stage four cancer and was being moved to hospice for end of life care. The family had been experiencing a challenging time with Social Security in obtaining disability benefits before she passed. After working with the constituents and Social Security for just over a week, Senator Roberts was able to assist in expediting approval

the disability application. She received her Social Security disability benefit with back payment totaling nearly \$20,000 within 10 days of contacting this office. The resolution provided peace of mind and additional financial security for both the constituent and her family in her final days. The entire family was incredibly grateful for the assistance with this matter and achieving real results.

III. A widow from Wichita visited Senator Roberts' office after her husband's suicide. Her husband was due over \$40,000 in disability back pay. The constituent was incurring substantial costs due to the unexpected medical and funeral expenses related to her husband's death. The senator's staff contacted Social Security and within three days, the agency was able to issue the benefit by direct deposit.

IV. A constituent contacted the senator's office because her passport application was being delayed. The passport agency would not accept her birth certificate because it mistakenly listed her gender incorrectly. She was able to obtain a corrected certificate but was left with a very small window to receive her passport in time for her international travel. The senator's staff was able to contact the passport agency and obtain an expedited completion of her application and she was able to leave on her overseas travel without delay.

Helping Americans Abroad

In 2014, a constituent from Protection, Kansas, called because he was concerned that he had not heard from his son who had been doing humanitarian work in Ho Chi Minh for some years. He indicated that because he worked in such a remote area it was not unusual to go for many months without hearing from his son, but nearly a year had passed without a phone call.

Senator Roberts' office contacted the liaison at the American Citizen Service department at the State Department to explain the situation. They were able to reach out to the son who contacted his father the next day. The constituent was so pleased with the responsiveness and said the senator had given him a wonderful early Christmas present.

Working in Partnership with Local Government

City officials contacted Senator Roberts' office to request assistance in obtaining necessary permits from the U.S. Corps of Engineers to develop the Cadillac Lake area in northwest Wichita. The Roberts' office, in working with then-Congressman Tiahrt's staff, was able to bring

Wichita officials, developers and the Corps together so that the parties could work through the permitting process which took over five years to finalize. The completed Cadillac Lake project provided additional flood protection to the surrounding area, converted undervalued real

estate to valuable commercial development and was key to the growth of northwest Wichita.

In another example, after original discussion in the 1930s, in 1984, the Pawnee Watershed District requested that the Horse Thief Reservoir be included in the Kansas State Water Plan and be considered for funding under the Small Lakes Program as a multipurpose dam to be used for flood control and recreation. Senator Roberts

was able to secure funds for planning and was instrumental in obtaining a permit for construction after Hodgemen, Finney, Ford and Gray counties approved a 0.15 cent sales tax to fund the 450-acre reservoir. The senator's office worked with the liaison at the U.S. Corps of Engineers to facilitate inter-agency approval. The Pawnee Watershed District eventually received approval and the dam was completed in 2009.



Horse Thief Ron Allen: Senator Roberts tours construction of Horse Thief Reservoir.



Tracy Jones Harley: Senator Roberts and constituent look at service medals earned by her father.



Senator Roberts and U.S. House Agriculture Committee Chairman Mike Conaway (R-TX) listen to Kansans at the Kansas State Fair. September 2016.

Biography

U.S. Senator Pat Roberts is a Kansan through and through.

He was born in Topeka, graduated from Holton High School and went on to earn his journalism degree from K-State. He always puts Kansas' needs and concerns front and center in his public service career. For 16 years, he represented the Big First District, including his home of Dodge City, in the U.S. House of Representatives. In 1996, he was elected to the U.S. Senate. He is currently serving his fourth term.

Roberts has built a reputation as a national leader in agriculture, health care and defense. He is an advocate of a strong education system, free and fair trade policies, increased investment in science and technology, a focused foreign policy and a strong military—all of which are necessary to keep Kansas competitive in today's rapidly evolving global marketplace.

Senator Roberts is Chairman of the Senate Agriculture Committee. He is the first member of Congress in history to have chaired both the House Agriculture Committee and now the Senate committee. He has also served as the ranking member of each committee. Senator Roberts continues his work in the 115th Congress ensuring that farmers and ranchers have the tools they need to advance American agriculture. He is fighting barriers to trade and regulations that threaten producers' competitiveness.

As a senior member of the Senate Finance Committee, Roberts gives Kansans increased leadership on legislation ranging from taxes to trade, health care, Medicare, Social Security, the aviation industry and transportation—issues impacting all Kansas families.

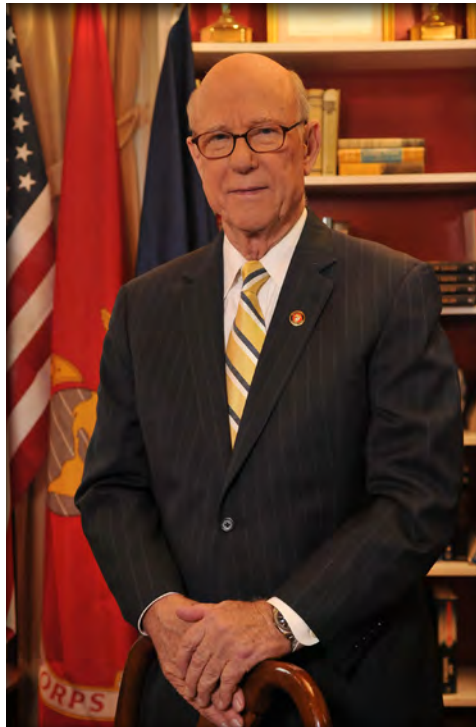
Roberts' record shows his long-standing concern for Kansas communities, businesses and families. A member of the Health, Education, Labor and Pensions (HELP) Committee, Roberts has passed legislation to end the federal mandate on Common Core and to preserve local education decision-making. As co-chairman of the Senate Rural Health Caucus, Roberts has worked hard

to ensure rural communities have access to the same affordable high quality care as their urban counterparts. He has fought to improve Medicare for patients and providers including rural hospitals, doctors and pharmacists. He voted against Obamacare and will work to repeal it and replace it with a plan that lowers health care costs for all families and prohibits cost controls that would interfere with treatment decisions between doctors and patients.

Roberts is committed to increasing Kansas' investment in math, science and technology, urging schools and universities to remain

highly competitive by investing in research infrastructure.

Roberts recognized the biosciences industry developing in Kansas starting in 1996 and has carefully looked for ways to enhance its development to promote an industry that has tremendous potential for growth, will keep Kansas' best and brightest in Kansas and will make Americans safer. Roberts has been recognized as a leader in food and biosecurity. He held the first hearings on the issue in Congress, has helped pass major biosecurity legislation, assisted Kansas State and other Kansas schools in gaining federal research investments, leading to the Biosecurity Research Institute (BRI) at Kansas State (housed in



U.S. Senator Pat Roberts

Pat Roberts Hall). Finally, he led the state's effort to compete and earn the National Bio and Agro-Defense Facility (NBAF), a new federal laboratory, in Manhattan, Kansas, to replace the aging federal plant and animal research facility at Plum Island.

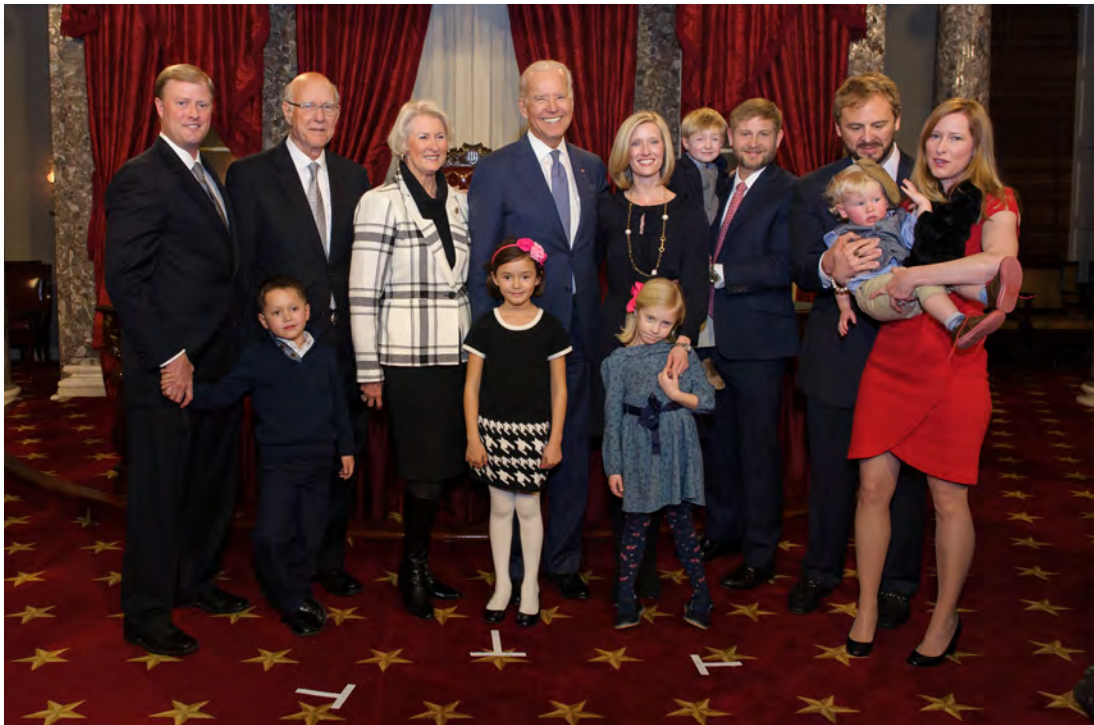
Kansans also know Roberts as an advocate for the states' military installations and those who serve in uniform. A former Marine, he played a key role in strengthening Kansas' military missions despite nationwide base closings—bringing thousands of new jobs to Kansas. He is the most senior Marine in the Congress.

As chairman of the Senate Intelligence Committee for four years, Roberts worked to improve intelligence gathering and analysis capabilities at a critical time in our nation's history. When concerns arose regarding the timing and accuracy of U.S. intelligence on pre-war Iraq, Roberts led the Intelligence Committee through one of the most sweeping and exhaustive reviews of U.S. intelligence ever conducted. The bipartisan report, unanimously approved by the members of the Intelligence Committee, revealed systemic failures within the intelligence community. The review led Roberts

to propose critical and forward thinking intelligence reforms. Many of his proposals were included in the 9/11 Intelligence Reform Act of 2004. In 2004, Roberts delivered the prestigious Landon Lecture at Kansas State University on national security topics.

Senator Roberts is also privileged to be a member of the Senate Rules Committee and the Senate Ethics Committee.

Pat Roberts is a fourth generation Kansan. Born in Topeka on April 20, 1936, Roberts is the son of the late Wes Roberts, chairman of the Republican National Committee under President Dwight Eisenhower. His great-grandfather, J.W. Roberts, founded the Oskaloosa Independent, the state's second oldest newspaper. Following graduation from Kansas State University in 1958, Roberts served in the U.S. Marine Corps for four years, then worked as a reporter and editor for several Arizona newspapers. He joined the staff of Kansas' U.S. Senator Frank Carlson in 1967. In 1969, Roberts became administrative assistant to First District U.S. Congressman Keith Sebelius. Roberts and his wife, Franki, have three grown children—David, Ashleigh and Anne-Wesley, and seven grandchildren.





U.S. SENATOR PAT ROBERTS

ACHIEVEMENTS FOR KANSAS AND THE COUNTRY 1997-2018

SEPTEMBER 2018